

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 604

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Sister Gretchen Kunz of the Bryan-College Station area as she transitions from her position as president and chief executive officer of the Saint Joseph Health System to new challenges in her life; and

WHEREAS, Sister Gretchen has served Saint Joseph Health System for 24 years in her present capacity; she will soon begin working with the system's charitable organization, the Saint Joseph Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Appointed hospital administrator in 1981, Sister Gretchen found a hospital struggling with financial hardships when she arrived; she quickly improved the hospital and was the driving force behind establishing its cardiac and cancer treatment facilities and expanding its rehabilitation and surgical services, maternal-child care, and emergency services; and

WHEREAS, Her visionary leadership in broadening the reach of Saint Joseph Health System to the entire Brazos Valley will be her lasting legacy; small hospitals in Caldwell, Navasota, and Madisonville have joined the system, and eight rural clinics have opened in the region as part of the system; and

WHEREAS, Sister Gretchen's energetic service extends beyond the Saint Joseph Health System, and she helped found the Prenatal Clinic, the Health for All Clinic, Project Unity, and the local Habitat for Humanity; she has also served on

the boards of several local organizations, including the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce and the United Way of the Brazos Valley; and

WHEREAS, A Catholic nun whose deep faith is manifest in her many good works, Sister Gretchen has a passion for addressing the health-care needs of the people of Brazos Valley, and her strength, dedication, and humanity will continue to inspire others as she continues her altruistic endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby commend Sister Gretchen Kunz for her many years of selfless dedication and service to the people of the Brazos Valley; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Ogden

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 13, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate