

By: Patrick

H.C.R. No. 135

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Special Olympics Texas has nurtured the athletic
2 capacity, the self-confidence, and the leadership skills of its
3 participants for nearly four decades, and many of its athletes are
4 visiting the Capitol on March 6, 2007; and

5 WHEREAS, Founded in 1969, Special Olympics Texas organized
6 the first Summer Games that same year, and soon the annual event was
7 attracting thousands of athletes; the 1980s saw the creation of the
8 Law Enforcement Torch Run, a fund-raiser for the Special Olympics
9 movement in which law enforcement officers run the Flame of Hope to
10 opening ceremonies, and the following decade brought about the
11 addition of the Winter Games; and

12 WHEREAS, In the ensuing years, Special Olympics Texas has
13 grown to encompass some 25,000 athletes participating in more than
14 200 annual competitions at area, regional, and state levels, making
15 it one of the largest Special Olympics programs in the world; a
16 Texas team traveled abroad for the first time for the 2003 Special
17 Olympics World Summer Games in Dublin, Ireland, with more than 55
18 athletes participating, and two years later, the state was
19 represented in the 2005 Special Olympics World Winter Games in
20 Nagano, Japan; in October 2007, some 60 athletes will compete in the
21 World Summer Games in Shanghai, China; and

22 WHEREAS, Special Olympics Texas showcases and celebrates the
23 talent, drive, and dedication of those individuals with
24 intellectual disabilities, and, in so doing, empowers its

1 participants to share in the joys of competition and teamwork; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby commend Special Olympics Texas for its exceptional programs
5 and extend to the athletes here today a warm welcome to the Capitol;
6 and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for Special Olympics Texas as an expression of high regard
9 by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.