

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Isela Gutierrez and Will Harrell have championed the
2 struggle for social justice, and their actions have resulted in a
3 positive change for this state; and

4 WHEREAS, Serving as coordinator of the Texas Coalition
5 Advocating Justice for Juveniles since February 2006, Ms. Gutierrez
6 is a principal advocate in exposing to the Texas Legislature the
7 structural flaws of and abuses occurring within the Texas Youth
8 Commission; in August 2006, she appeared before the Senate Criminal
9 Justice Committee interim hearing in McAllen, issuing visionary
10 demands for reform that ultimately were included in S.B. 103;
11 throughout the 80th legislative session, she has been a constant
12 and effective voice for reform and an indispensable expert resource
13 for staff and members; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell, co-chair of the Texas Coalition
15 Advocating Justice for Juveniles and executive director of the
16 American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, has been an indefatigable
17 advocate for the rights of incarcerated Texans since the 77th
18 legislative session; as one of the most effective voices for civil
19 rights in the Texas Legislature for the past seven years, he has
20 worked to encourage passage of the racial profiling law, the Fair
21 Defense Act, and the "Tulia bills"; his expertise in Texas
22 government and his relationships on both sides of the aisle have
23 helped to put the reform concepts of Ms. Gutierrez into legislative
24 motion; and

1 WHEREAS, Together, they have garnered the critical support
2 and political clout of the Texas League of United Latin American
3 Citizens and the Texas Conference of the NAACP, which Mr. Harrell
4 has represented throughout the process; Ms. Gutierrez has shared
5 her leadership with the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition, and this
6 valued organization has in turn provided its vital expertise,
7 network of supporters, and guidance; moreover, Mr. Harrell and Ms.
8 Gutierrez were able to ensure that the Texas Legislature heard the
9 voices of parents whose children have been in TYC and of formerly
10 incarcerated youths; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Gutierrez and Mr. Harrell have served as vital
12 resources for the legislature in its efforts to address the
13 problems of the Texas Youth Commission, and they are most deserving
14 of special commendation; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
16 hereby honor Isela Gutierrez and Will Harrell and extend to them
17 sincere gratitude and best wishes for continued success; and, be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
20 for Ms. Gutierrez and Mr. Harrell as an expression of high regard by
21 the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Madden

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 252 was adopted by the House on May 14, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 252 was adopted by the Senate on May 15, 2007, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor