

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The student and adult volunteers of the Irving Teen
2 Court provide an important civic service by taking part in a
3 juvenile justice program that benefits the residents of Irving and
4 also provides valuable experience for the young participants who
5 fill the courtroom assignments; and

6 WHEREAS, A deferred program of the Irving Municipal Court,
7 Teen Court hears cases involving teenage defendants who have
8 received a Class C misdemeanor ticket; young adults ages 14 and
9 older serve as attorneys, jurors, clerks, and bailiffs as these
10 cases are tried; and

11 WHEREAS, Prior to taking their places in the courtroom, the
12 youth participants are trained for their duties by adult
13 volunteers; Teen Court attorneys are tutored by professional
14 lawyers and hone their skills as assistant and associate attorneys
15 before taking charge of a case; teen jurors, clerks, and bailiffs
16 also undergo training to prepare them to carry out their official
17 functions; and

18 WHEREAS, These young volunteers become part of an actual
19 courtroom, with attorneys presenting the prosecution and defense
20 cases and six-person juries deciding the verdict and sentencing
21 defendants to perform community service if they are found guilty;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, In addition to the licensed attorneys who instruct
24 the young litigators and serve as judges, other adult volunteers

1 play crucial roles in the Teen Court proceedings by overseeing the
2 courtrooms and handling administrative and training duties; and

3 WHEREAS, By aiding the administration of juvenile justice and
4 providing young citizens with first-hand experience in the legal
5 system, the Irving Teen Court helps prepare youths for their
6 future, and in so doing, contributes immeasurably to the well-being
7 of this state; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
9 Legislature hereby recognize the student and adult volunteers of
10 the Irving Teen Court and commend them for their dedicated service
11 to the community; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the Teen Court as an expression of high regard by the
14 Texas House of Representatives.

Harper-Brown

H.R. No. 848

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 848 was adopted by the House on March 28, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House