

By: Strama

H.R. No. 1658

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Medicare hospice benefits have helped to provide
2 terminally ill Texans and their families critical assistance for 25
3 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Since hospice benefits were added to the program in
5 1982, hospice care has become a vital part of the state's Medicare
6 system, which includes more than 320 licensed hospice providers
7 operating out of some 428 locations; and

8 WHEREAS, Hospice care seeks to reduce the pain of people who
9 are facing terminal illness so that they may live out their
10 remaining days with dignity and quality; a team of compassionate
11 caregivers, including doctors, registered nurses, social workers,
12 chaplains, home health aides, and volunteers, works to support the
13 needs of these patients and their families; and

14 WHEREAS, Hundreds of patients receive hospice care
15 throughout the state every day, and as the population continues to
16 age, demand for hospice care is expected to grow; people in the
17 final stage of life deserve to live as fully and comfortably as
18 possible, and Medicare hospice benefits are a crucial component in
19 allowing them to do so; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
21 Legislature hereby recognize the 25th anniversary of the Medicare
22 hospice benefits program and commend the myriad caring hospice
23 professionals throughout the state for their efforts in behalf of
24 patients facing the end of life.