

By: Puente

H.R. No. 2581

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, After nearly three decades of outstanding service  
2 with the Texas Legislature, esteemed Capitol denizen Sandy Rodesney  
3 is retiring from her position as chief of staff in the office of  
4 State Representative Robert Puente in June 2007; and

5           WHEREAS, Ms. Rodesney joined Representative Puente's staff  
6 in 1991 after interviewing the incoming freshman legislator to see  
7 if he was worth taking a chance on; 16 years later, this dynamic duo  
8 has proven to be a highly effective and efficient pairing, and the  
9 two have become fast friends and confidantes during their  
10 nine-session-long tenure in the legislative trenches; and

11           WHEREAS, It was in 1978 that Ms. Rodesney came to Austin from  
12 Houston with her young daughter, Ang, in tow and inauspiciously  
13 began her career with the legislature as a sessional employee in the  
14 office of a state senator; after he lost his bid for higher office,  
15 Ms. Rodesney joined the staff of a state representative who also  
16 went on to lose his bid for higher office; given that track record,  
17 Representative Puente has perhaps wisely chosen not to pursue  
18 higher office with Ms. Rodesney in his employ; his intuition has  
19 greatly benefited the Texas House and has proven impeccable, much  
20 like his decision to offer Ms. Rodesney the job in the first place,  
21 once she agreed to take it; and

22           WHEREAS, Over the course of her remarkable tenure, Ms.  
23 Rodesney has trained myriad staffers, earning the respect and  
24 admiration of all those who have been privileged to work with her;

1 in fact, her kindness and generosity of spirit, combined with her  
2 considerable expertise as one of the legislature's longest-tenured  
3 employees, have led coworkers to start a petition to have her visage  
4 replace the face on the Goddess of Liberty atop the Capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, Unlikely to be "sweet-talked" out of retirement  
6 again, as she was in 2004, Sandy Rodesney will be deeply missed by  
7 her friends and colleagues under the dome, although they may find  
8 some measure of comfort in imagining her leading a carefree  
9 existence, even in odd-numbered years; no doubt the good life will  
10 include many trips to the San Francisco Bay area, where her daughter  
11 has become a successful interior designer and is establishing her  
12 own design firm; and

13 WHEREAS, In bidding a fond farewell to their own "Sandra  
14 Dee," those who know her best acknowledge that while Ms. Rodesney  
15 will soon no longer frequent the Capitol, her influence will  
16 continue to resonate for many years to come in the lives of the  
17 countless people she helped during her years of public service;  
18 now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby honor Sandy Rodesney for her Capitol career with  
21 the State of Texas and extend to her sincere best wishes for a very  
22 happy and fulfilling retirement; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
24 prepared for Ms. Rodesney as an expression of high regard by the  
25 Texas House of Representatives.