

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 319

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to honor Chellie Pingree, who is stepping down as the president and the chief executive officer for Common Cause; and

WHEREAS, She served in these positions from March of 2003 until February of 2007; and

WHEREAS, Chellie Pingree ran a farm and a wool-knitting business in New Haven, Maine, an island that boasts 350 residents; she became interested in rural economic development issues and helped form an economic development corporation that supported small business creation and peer-lending in Maine; she soon segued into public service as a member of the school board; and

WHEREAS, She served in the Maine Senate for eight years, and she served as the majority leader during her last four years in office; she won legislative battles on issues such as health care, economic development, and the environment, and she was a Democratic candidate for the United States Senate in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Common Cause is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization that Chellie Pingree recognized as an organization whose mission neatly dovetailed with her own ideals about the governmental process; she believes in the democratic political process and that elected leaders must be held accountable to the public; and

WHEREAS, She has handled her responsibilities at Common Cause with exceptional skill and dedication; under her leadership, the organization has grown in membership, has expanded and

diversified its agenda, and has allocated resources to key reform efforts in different states; and

WHEREAS, An exemplary and distinguished individual, Chellie Pingree is beloved and respected by her colleagues and the members of her staff, and her presence at Common Cause will be greatly missed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend Chellie Pingree for her many contributions to Common Cause and extend to her best wishes for the years ahead; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 26, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate