

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 654

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in recognizing the Texas Juvenile Justice System and in declaring April 24 Texas Juvenile Justice Day 2007; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas and county governments are partners in providing one of the most progressive juvenile justice systems in the nation; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Juvenile Justice System is comprised of 169 community-based probation departments that serve youths and families in all 254 counties in the state; the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission provides oversight for the probation departments; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature extensively studied and analyzed the juvenile justice system and, in 1995, made sweeping reforms that provided for greater accountability for offenders, broader options for the prosecution of juvenile offenders, increased public safety, focused prevention and early intervention programs, and increased funding for the entire juvenile justice system; and

WHEREAS, With increased resources and guidelines, juvenile justice system professionals are able to make a positive difference in the lives of many troubled Texas youths and their families; and

WHEREAS, The juvenile probation departments handle 98 percent of the referrals of youths to the juvenile justice system each year through the efforts of more than 7,100 certified juvenile probation, detention, and corrections officers; and

WHEREAS, The dedicated probation, detention, and corrections officers are represented by the Juvenile Justice Association of Texas, whose members promote advocacy for Texas children by providing quality juvenile services through professional development, leadership, education, and training; and

WHEREAS, The persons who enter the field of juvenile justice accept a great responsibility to the youths and families of Texas; they work tirelessly and courageously to rehabilitate the lives of troubled youths and maintain the security and safety of our state's communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend the outstanding professionals of our juvenile justice system for their vital contributions to the citizens of this state and extend sincere appreciation to them on Texas Juvenile Justice Day 2007; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in their honor and as an expression of high regard from the Texas Legislature.

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 10, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate