

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 899

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Anna DeSanctis, who recently won the Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Anna was one of two youth volunteers in Texas to win the volunteerism award; she is 13 years old and a student at Holy Spirit Episcopal School; she was honored for raising more than \$22,000 to create libraries at four orphanages located in the Chinese province where she was born; and

**WHEREAS**, Anna was adopted as a baby; after she learned that most orphanages in China had no libraries for children, she set out to raise \$2,000 to fund a library for one orphanage; she called her fundraising effort Odyssey Project because she saw it as a journey that connected her to her past; and

**WHEREAS**, She asked for donations from friends and family members instead of birthday presents; she hosted a school dance, asked her grandparents to encourage their friends to make donations, and contributed her allowance for one year to the project; and

**WHEREAS**, Anna raised more than \$22,000 in 18 months, and she sent the donation to two Chinese social welfare organizations to build and stock libraries at four orphanages; there were enough funds to construct water wells in two remote villages as well; last year, she traveled to China to dedicate two of the new libraries; and

**WHEREAS**, Because of Anna's gratitude for her own advantages and her compassion for others, the children in orphanages in China now have books to read and study; the selflessness and commitment of young people such as Anna are keys to a better future for all people; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend Anna DeSanctis for outstanding volunteer service in her community and congratulate her on receiving the Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and, be it further

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

Patrick

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 30, 2007.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate