

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 983

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Texas Appleseed, whose members are celebrating 10 years of public interest work; and

WHEREAS, Texas Appleseed is a stand-alone law center and a major participant in a vibrant network of Appleseed Centers operating in 17 states and Mexico City; and

WHEREAS, Among the organization's major accomplishments are its programs ensuring access to justice and fair defense for the indigent, helping immigrants and other groups gain access to mainstream financial institutions, promoting diversity in law schools and the legal profession, and protecting the rights of those affected by natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, Texas Appleseed has a talented staff led by executive director Rebecca Lightsey and a national board that represents more than four dozen major law firms and corporations; the Texas center is one of the largest in the network and plays an important role in collaborations with other centers; and

WHEREAS, Senior policy analyst Ann Baddour also serves as a national coordinator of financial services, and legal director Deborah Fowler went to New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina to train attorneys on issues related to defense of clients with mental disorders; and

WHEREAS, Annette LoVoi cofounded and served as the previous executive director for Texas Appleseed; she is continuing to nurture the organization in her current role as national field director advising Appleseed Centers across the country; and

WHEREAS, Texas Appleseed promotes equality and fairness for all by assembling the talents of dedicated members of the legal community and other professions who want to give back to their communities by helping the poor, persons with mental disabilities, and recent immigrants gain access to quality education, economic security, and a fair justice system; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby congratulate the members of Texas Appleseed on the organization's 10th anniversary and extend to all best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 8, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate