

By: Pierson

H.R. No. 147

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, An unlikely pair of friends, Ron Hall and Denver  
2 Moore have come together to serve the homeless community in Fort  
3 Worth and to raise awareness about this complex issue across the  
4 country; and

5 WHEREAS, Denver Moore was born in 1937 in Louisiana; during  
6 his youth, he resided with his aunt and uncle, who were  
7 sharecroppers on a plantation in Red River Parish; he later escaped  
8 the confines of the plantation on a freight train and spent the next  
9 few years as a homeless drifter; in 1966, he was sentenced to 10  
10 years at Angola Prison in Louisiana, and after his release, Mr.  
11 Moore boarded another freight train bound for Texas; he was once  
12 again homeless, and he lived on the streets of Fort Worth for the  
13 next 22 years; and

14 WHEREAS, Ron Hall was born in Blooming Grove in 1945 and was  
15 raised in the Haltom City area; a graduate of TCU, he joined the  
16 U.S. Army and also earned a master's degree in business; he married  
17 his college sweetheart, the former Deborah Short, and later became  
18 an international art dealer; at his wife's urging, Mr. Hall began  
19 serving weekly meals alongside her at Union Gospel Mission in Fort  
20 Worth, where they met Mr. Moore in 1998; and

21 WHEREAS, Since their initial meeting, Mr. Hall and Mr. Moore  
22 have nurtured a close and enduring friendship; they wrote about  
23 their experiences in *Same Kind of Different As Me*, a memoir they  
24 coauthored; in the book, they discuss how they relied on one another

1 during Mrs. Hall's battle with cancer and how they were inspired by  
2 her compassion for others; after Mrs. Hall's death, Mr. Moore  
3 pledged to continue the work that she had done for the homeless, and  
4 he has delivered on this promise; having turned his life around, he  
5 now speaks to audiences around the country and volunteers his  
6 services at Union Gospel Mission; in 2006, he was presented with the  
7 Philanthropist of the Year award by the citizens of Fort Worth; and

8         WHEREAS, Together, Mr. Moore and Mr. Hall are giving the  
9 often overlooked members of the homeless community a powerful voice  
10 and touching the lives and hearts of countless individuals; now,  
11 therefore, be it

12         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
13 Legislature hereby commend Ron Hall and Denver Moore for their  
14 efforts in behalf of the homeless in Fort Worth and across the  
15 country and extend to them best wishes for continued success with  
16 their important work; and, be it further

17         RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared  
18 for Ron Hall and Denver Moore as an expression of high regard by the  
19 Texas House of Representatives.