

By: Farabee

H.R. No. 439

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, In the course of his long and accomplished career in  
2 the field of mental health, Roddy Atkins has offered vital  
3 assistance to residents of North Texas; and

4           WHEREAS, Raised in Wichita Falls, Mr. Atkins first became  
5 interested in psychology while attending Texas Tech University; he  
6 later transferred to Midwestern State University, where he earned  
7 an undergraduate degree and a master's degree in counseling; and

8           WHEREAS, His professional career began at the Wichita Falls  
9 Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center in 1980, and  
10 he became a caseworker at the Vernon Drug Dependent Youth Project a  
11 year later; beginning in 1988, he spent three years working as an  
12 associate psychologist with the Community Services division of the  
13 Wichita Falls State Hospital; and

14           WHEREAS, Deciding he could make a further contribution in the  
15 administrative ranks, Mr. Atkins accepted a position supervising  
16 clinics in several North Texas communities and then became a  
17 community services director; in the mid-1990s, he played an  
18 instrumental role in the effort to merge state operated mental  
19 health and mental retardation services in the region, and he  
20 ultimately oversaw the incorporation of existing facilities into  
21 the Helen Farabee Regional MHMR Centers; he has held the position of  
22 executive director for the organization since 1998; and

23           WHEREAS, This skilled administrator is responsible for MHMR  
24 and substance abuse services for a 19-county area; his astute

1 management has allowed the Farabee centers to do an outstanding job  
2 in serving their clients, many of whom are at-risk individuals who  
3 lack insurance and are of limited financial means; and

4         WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Roddy Atkins has dedicated  
5 himself to helping individuals to overcome and cope with issues of  
6 mental health and mental retardation, and his success in this  
7 admirable undertaking has enabled numerous North Texas residents to  
8 establish happier and more productive lives; now, therefore, be it

9         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
10 Legislature hereby commend Roddy Atkins for his achievements as a  
11 mental health administrator and clinician and extend to him sincere  
12 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

13         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for Mr. Atkins as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
15 House of Representatives.