

By: Olivo

H.R. No. 844

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Representatives of the Respect Life and Family Life  
2 ministries of the Roman Catholic Church in Texas are visiting the  
3 State Capitol on March 31, 2009, and this occasion provides a  
4 fitting opportunity to recognize the many good works that these  
5 ministries have accomplished over the years; and

6           WHEREAS, Established at the parish level throughout the 15  
7 dioceses in Texas, the Respect Life ministry, together with the  
8 related Gabriel Project, offers services to women facing crisis  
9 pregnancies; these ministries, conducted without regard to race,  
10 religion, or socioeconomic background, literally save the lives of  
11 thousands of new Texans every year and provide ongoing parenting  
12 assistance for their families; and

13           WHEREAS, Family Life ministries, which are also carried out  
14 within the parishes, provide marriage preparation and education to  
15 engaged couples; in addition, these ministries support marriage  
16 enrichment programs and help residents across the state strengthen  
17 and nurture their family relationships; and

18           WHEREAS, Both the Respect Life and Family Life ministries  
19 have their origins in the commitment of the Catholic Church to  
20 respect the dignity of all human life, from conception to natural  
21 death; accordingly, these ministries support ethically and morally  
22 responsible adult stem cell research, which has saved countless  
23 lives, while opposing the unethical and immoral practice of  
24 embryonic stem cell research and human cloning; and

1           WHEREAS, Supporting and encouraging the work of the Respect  
2 Life and Family Life ministries is the Texas Catholic Conference,  
3 the statewide association of Roman Catholic dioceses in Texas; as  
4 well as fostering cooperation and communication among the Catholic  
5 dioceses and ministries in the state, the conference serves as the  
6 public policy arm of the Texas bishops; and

7           WHEREAS, Those who give of their time and talents in behalf of  
8 the Respect Life and Family Life ministries are easing the burdens  
9 of many individuals and contributing to the building of strong,  
10 healthy families; now, therefore, be it

11           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
12 Legislature hereby welcome the ministers of the Respect Life and  
13 Family Life delegation on the occasion of their visit to the State  
14 Capitol and commend all those associated with these ministries for  
15 their continuing efforts to promote the dignity of all human life by  
16 making a positive difference in the lives of others; and, be it  
17 further

18           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
19 prepared for the Texas Catholic Conference as an expression of high  
20 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.