

By: Eiland

H.R. No. 2401

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Allison McMullen of Galveston has been named an
2 Unsung Hero by the *Galveston County Daily News*; and

3 WHEREAS, Each year, the newspaper asks its readers to
4 nominate people they know who have served the community quietly and
5 selflessly; those selected as Unsung Heroes are honored in the
6 special *Profiles* edition alongside the Citizen of the Year, and in
7 2009, the paper chose to recognize nine residents who helped others
8 through the upheaval in the wake of Hurricane Ike; and

9 WHEREAS, Allison McMullen volunteers with the Whiskerville
10 Animal Sanctuary in Texas City and fosters animals waiting for a
11 permanent home; when Hurricane Ike bore down on Galveston County,
12 she aided the shelter's efforts by evacuating with six of its
13 kittens and one of its dogs, as well as her own three cats; and

14 WHEREAS, A doctoral student in the field of infectious
15 diseases, Ms. McMullen moved to Galveston to begin her studies at
16 The University of Texas Medical Branch; she first visited
17 Whiskerville to adopt a kitten and soon began volunteering at the
18 no-kill shelter, helping to care for the animals and finding them
19 families; during the Hurricane Rita evacuation, she took
20 responsibility for moving four rescued kittens out of danger, and
21 when she married her husband, Joe, in 2008, the couple asked wedding
22 guests for donations to Whiskerville in lieu of gifts; and

23 WHEREAS, Damage from Hurricane Ike and vandalism caused
24 Whiskerville to close to the public for a time, but Ms. McMullen

1 remained a faithful volunteer and advocate; the shelter is now able
2 to hold limited hours for adoptions and Ms. McMullen juggles the
3 responsibilities of her classwork, research, and graduate
4 assistantship in order to work at the shelter at least once a week,
5 assisting in every way she can, from nurturing animals to answering
6 phones; moreover, since beginning her association with the shelter,
7 she has fostered three cats, two dozen kittens, and a number of
8 dogs; and

9 WHEREAS, Hurricane Ike left countless pets homeless and in
10 need of aid, making the endeavors of organizations like
11 Whiskerville Animal Sanctuary more vital than ever; through her
12 compassion for vulnerable creatures and commitment to their
13 well-being, Allison McMullen has greatly benefited the shelter and
14 made a positive difference in Galveston County; now, therefore, be
15 it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
17 Legislature hereby congratulate Allison McMullen on being named an
18 Unsung Hero by the *Galveston County Daily News* and extend to her
19 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Ms. McMullen as an expression of high regard by the
22 Texas House of Representatives.