SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 227

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in welcoming the visiting delegation from Catholic Charities and salutes the members of the organization for their many good works over the years; and

WHEREAS, Catholic Charities is present in more than 20 locations in Texas; Catholic Charities extends to persons of all races, religions, and socioeconomic backgrounds faith-based and tangible assistance, with the goal of helping them reach self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, Among the many programs and services provided by Catholic Charities and Parish Social Ministry programs are adoption, basic personal-living needs, counseling, disaster response, education and enrichment, housing, food banks, and health, refugee, immigration, and social support; in 2008 alone the organization aided more than 400,000 individuals; and

whereas, As a part of the Catholic Church's mission to respect the dignity of all people, Catholic Criminal Justice Ministers serve as chaplains in jails and prisons throughout the state of Texas, working to assist in the rehabilitation of the convicted and the reintegration of ex-offenders into society; and

WHEREAS, In addition to its Catholic Charities and Criminal Justice Ministry programs, Catholic Social Action Ministry is a continuing advocate of social justice and seeks to empower communities through action and education with the guiding principle of ensuring basic human dignity for all; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby extend a warm welcome to the members of the Catholic Charity and Justice delegation on the occasion of their visit to the State Capitol and commend all those associated with the organization for their ongoing efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of others; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the Texas Catholic Conference as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Lucio

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 17, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate