

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 414**

**WHEREAS,** The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to honor Von William Byer, committee director of the Senate Committee on Education, for his 10 years of outstanding service with Senator Florence Shapiro; and

**WHEREAS,** A native of Kansas and proud graduate of the University of Kansas, Von Byer saw the light and moved to Texas, earning a law degree from The University of Texas School of Law in 1998; and

**WHEREAS,** He was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 1998 and began working with Senator Shapiro in 1999 when she was chair of the Committee on State Affairs; he was a policy analyst for the committee and became one of the senator's primary advisors on constitutional reform, campaign finance laws, transportation, and bonding issues; and

**WHEREAS,** He became general counsel for Senator Shapiro's office and subsequently general counsel of the Senate Committee on Education when the senator was appointed education committee chair for the 78th Legislature in 2003; quickly learning the intricacies of the complex and sometimes baffling topic of school finance, he helped the senator and her 30 colleagues pass a school finance bill by a vote of 31-0 in the Senate; and

**WHEREAS,** Von has served as director of the Senate Committee on Education since November of 2003; he has survived four special sessions on school finance and has more than proved his mettle in the fast-paced environment of the legislature; while his specialty is school finance, Von ultimately holds responsibility for all issues before the committee; and

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**WHEREAS**, A man of many interests, Von is a student of the Austrian school of economics and a fervent proponent of individual liberty; he is a trusted advisor, mentor, and friend to his colleagues and an invaluable asset to the Texas Senate; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend Von William Byer for his exemplary service with the Texas Senate and Senator Florence Shapiro and extend to him best wishes for the future; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of highest regard from the Texas Senate.

Shapiro

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 10, 2009.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate