

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The volunteers, staff, and board members who make up
2 the Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates organization are
3 gathering in Austin on February 1, 2011, for CASA Day at the
4 Capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, Court appointed special advocates are individuals
6 who speak up for children removed from their homes due to abuse or
7 neglect; sworn in by judges, CASA volunteers make certain that
8 these young people have a voice in the family court, social service,
9 and foster care systems, and the advocates remain focused on each
10 child until he or she is placed in a safe, permanent home and the
11 case is closed; often, the volunteers are a rare source of stability
12 in the lives of the young people they assist; and

13 WHEREAS, The CASA movement began in Seattle in 1977, when a
14 judge realized that he needed to know more about the young victims
15 of abuse and neglect who appeared in his courtroom; the
16 contributions of the volunteers who responded to his request for
17 assistance were so valuable that the program quickly spread to
18 other states; the first CASA program in Texas began in 1979, and
19 there are currently 69 local programs in the state that together
20 provide life-changing advocacy to more than half of the children in
21 the foster care system; and

22 WHEREAS, A diverse group that comes from a broad range of
23 backgrounds, CASA volunteers in Texas research a child's situation,
24 offer information and recommendations about the individual's best

1 interests, and work with the state to find the young person a
2 "forever family"; in 2010, more than 6,600 volunteers gave help and
3 hope to more than 20,000 children; and

4 WHEREAS, Countless residents of Texas benefit from the
5 critical services provided by CASA volunteers, whose work ensures
6 that a most vulnerable group in our society is not forgotten; now,
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
9 Legislature hereby recognize February 1, 2011, as CASA Day at the
10 Capitol and commend all those associated with Texas CASA for their
11 steadfast commitment and admirable achievements; and, be it further

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

Otto
Nash

Straus	Gonzales of Williamson	Morrison
Aliseda	Gonzalez	Munoz, Jr.
Allen	Gooden	Murphy
Alonzo	Guillen	Naishtat
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Nash
Anchia	Hamilton	Oliveira
Anderson of Dallas	Hancock	Orr
Anderson of McLennan	Hardcastle	Otto
Aycock	Harless	Parker
Beck	Harper-Brown	Patrick
Berman	Hartnett	Paxton
Bohac	Hernandez Luna	Pena
Bonnen	Hilderbran	Perry
Branch	Hochberg	Phillips
Brown	Hopson	Pickett
Burkett	Howard of Fort Bend	Pitts
Burnam	Howard of Travis	Price
Button	Huberty	Quintanilla
Cain	Hughes	Raymond
Callegari	Hunter	Reynolds
Carter	Isaac	Riddle
Castro	Jackson	Ritter
Chisum	Johnson	Rodriguez
Christian	Keffer	Schwertner
Coleman	King of Parker	Scott
Cook	King of Taylor	Sheets
Craddick	King of Zavala	Sheffield
Creighton	Kleinschmidt	Shelton
Crownover	Kolkhorst	Simpson
Darby	Kuempel	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Landtroop	Smith of Tarrant
J. Davis of Harris	Larson	Smithee
S. Davis of Harris	Laubenberg	Solomons
Deshotel	Lavender	Strama
Driver	Legler	Taylor of Collin
Dukes	Lewis	Taylor of Galveston
Dutton	Lozano	Thompson
Eiland	Lucio III	Torres
Eissler	Lyne	Truitt
Elkins	Madden	Turner
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Margo	Villarreal
Fletcher	Marquez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez	Walle
Frullo	Martinez Fischer	Weber
Gallego	McClendon	White
Garza	Menendez	Woolley
Geren	Miles	Workman
Giddings	Miller of Comal	Zedler
Gonzales of Hidalgo	Miller of Erath	Zerwas

H.R. No. 140

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 140 was adopted by the House on February 1, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House