

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 January 30, 2013, 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 2012, more than 7,200 volunteers gave help and
3 hope to more than 22,900 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 83rd Texas
9 Legislature hereby recognize January 30, 2013, 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

Straus	M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira
Allen	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Alonzo	Gooden	Otto
Alvarado	Guerra	Paddie
Anchia	Guillen	Parker
Anderson	Gutierrez	Patrick
Ashby	Harless	Perez
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Perry
Bell	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bohac	Herrero	Pickett
Bonnen of Brazoria	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Galveston	Howard	Price
Branch	Huberty	Raney
Burkett	Hughes	Ratliff
Burnam	Hunter	Raymond
Button	Isaac	Reynolds
Callegari	Johnson	Riddle
Canales	Kacal	Ritter
Capriglione	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Carter	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Clardy	King of Parker	Rose
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sanford
Collier	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Cook	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cortez	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Craddick	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Creighton	Krause	Simmons
Crownover	Kuempel	Simpson
Dale	Larson	Smith
Darby	Laubenberg	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Deshotel	Longoria	Strama
Dukes	Lozano	Taylor
Dutton	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Eiland	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez	Toth
Fallon	Martinez Fischer	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas

H.R. No. 267

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 267 was adopted by the House on January 30, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House