

By: Howard

H.R. No. 620

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Ken Kramer retired as executive director of the Lone  
2 Star Chapter of the Sierra Club on July 31, 2012, concluding a  
3 notable career with that organization that spanned more than three  
4 decades; and

5           WHEREAS, A native Texan, Mr. Kramer served his country as a  
6 member of the U.S. Army before earning a doctoral degree in  
7 political science from Rice University; he subsequently worked as a  
8 professor at San Angelo State University and Texas A&M University  
9 and became involved with the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter along  
10 the way; he served as the group's legislative chair and as a member  
11 of the executive committee, and he ultimately left academia in 1982  
12 to focus on environmental advocacy; he was the chapter's contract  
13 lobbyist until 1989 when he was hired as its first director; and

14           WHEREAS, Under his skillful stewardship, the Lone Star  
15 Chapter became a model of organizational strength and effective  
16 representation, serving as a staunch advocate for improved air  
17 quality and state parks and as an important resource regarding  
18 state water policy; Mr. Kramer established a long and wide-ranging  
19 list of noteworthy conservation achievements, including his  
20 successful efforts to encourage the state to retain ownership of  
21 the remote 20,000-acre Devils River State Natural Area; his  
22 guidance also paved the way toward the reduced use of coal as a  
23 power source and Texas' emergence as a national leader in renewable  
24 energy production; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Kramer continues to contribute to the  
2 environmental cause as a member of the Water Conservation Advisory  
3 Council, the Advisory Council for the Environmental Science  
4 Institute at The University of Texas at Austin, and the board of the  
5 Texas Water Foundation; his accomplishments further include  
6 serving as editor of *The Living Waters of Texas*, a volume of essays  
7 and photographs about our state's water features; and

8           WHEREAS, Known for his insightful knowledge of policy, Ken  
9 Kramer is admired by colleagues as a wise strategist who keeps his  
10 humor in spite of the challenges; he has dedicated his career to  
11 preserving the Lone Star State's natural resources and to working  
12 for clean air, water, and land on behalf of its citizens, and his  
13 efforts will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of  
14 Texans for years to come; now, therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Ken Kramer on his retirement as  
17 executive director of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club and  
18 extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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