

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 1271

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Laura A. Weiser retired from the  
2 Victoria County Court at Law No. 1 on February 28, 2013, after more  
3 than 20 years of dedicated service; and

4 WHEREAS, First elected to the bench in 1990, Judge Weiser  
5 rendered decisions on civil and criminal cases involving both adult  
6 and juvenile offenders; she is known for her evenhandedness and her  
7 belief in holding offenders accountable while effectively guiding  
8 them on the path to productive citizenship; she counted among her  
9 proudest accomplishments her success in lowering the recidivism  
10 rate of adults with substance abuse problems by requiring them to  
11 check in with authorities at regular intervals and by monitoring  
12 them with ankle bracelets and other tools; and

13 WHEREAS, Judge Weiser has additionally devoted her abilities  
14 to ensuring that young persons receive proper treatment and avoid  
15 the "revolving door" of the justice system; to that end, she  
16 advocated for and oversaw the construction of the first juvenile  
17 detention facility in Victoria, where she presided over cases for  
18 many years; moreover, she collaborated with Victoria ISD officials  
19 and members of the district attorney's office to plan and  
20 coordinate an effective system for dealing with truant students;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, A graduate of Houston Baptist University, Laura  
23 Weiser earned her doctor of jurisprudence degree in 1985 by taking  
24 night classes at the University of Houston Law Center while

1 teaching during the daytime; she later continued her studies and  
2 received degrees from the College for New Judges, the Texas College  
3 for Judicial Studies, and the National Judicial College; and

4       WHEREAS, Relocating to Victoria with her family in 1985,  
5 Ms. Weiser worked for two local law firms before becoming a staff  
6 attorney with Coastal Bend Legal Services, a position that involved  
7 providing counsel to indigent clients; she subsequently joined the  
8 criminal district attorney's office and represented the Texas  
9 Department of Family and Protective Services in prosecuting  
10 interstate child support cases and juvenile delinquency  
11 proceedings; and

12       WHEREAS, Judge Weiser has shared her knowledge and expertise  
13 with her peers in a multitude of professional organizations; in  
14 addition to spending a decade as a faculty member and advisor for  
15 the College for New Judges, she served for several years as chair of  
16 the Texas Center for the Judiciary and as elected chair of the  
17 judicial section of the state bar; in 2011, she was appointed by  
18 Wallace B. Jefferson, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Texas,  
19 to the Texas Judicial Council, a policy-making body composed of  
20 judges, lawmakers, and citizen leaders; and

21       WHEREAS, Through the years, Ms. Weiser has benefited from the  
22 love and support of her husband, Juan Velasquez III, who is retired  
23 as the judge of Victoria County Court at Law No. 2, and she takes  
24 great pride in her children, Jessica and Scott; and

25       WHEREAS, This esteemed jurist has served Victoria County with  
26 fairness, foresight, and professionalism, and she can take great  
27 pride in her outstanding record of achievement; now, therefore, be

1 it

2           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
3 Legislature hereby congratulate the Honorable Laura Ann Weiser on  
4 her retirement as judge of Victoria County Court at Law No. 1 and  
5 extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success and  
6 happiness in her future endeavors; and, be it further

7           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for Judge Weiser as an expression of high regard by the  
9 Texas House of Representatives.