

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1496

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Driscoll Children's Hospital of Corpus Christi
2 celebrated its 60th anniversary on April 2, 2013, with the
3 dedication of a historical marker honoring its founder, Clara
4 Driscoll; and

5 WHEREAS, A generous gift from Driscoll Foundation trustee Joe
6 Fulton and his wife, Fran, the marker celebrates the life of an
7 illustrious Texas businesswoman, philanthropist, and historic
8 preservationist; Clara Driscoll was born in St. Mary's, near
9 present-day Bayside, on April 2, 1881, to a family already
10 established in South Texas for half a century; often called the
11 "Savior of the Alamo" for her instrumental role in the purchase of
12 the famous mission when it was slated for demolition in the early
13 1900s, she later donated her home in Austin to the Texas Fine Arts
14 Association for use as a museum and served as vice chair of the
15 Texas Centennial Exposition executive board; Clara Driscoll also
16 took a keen interest in politics and served for 16 years as the
17 Democratic Party's national committeewoman from Texas; at her death
18 in 1945, she bequeathed most of her fortune for the establishment of
19 a children's hospital in Corpus Christi; and

20 WHEREAS, Driscoll Children's Hospital opened with 25 beds in
21 1953 and originally served a five-county area in the Coastal Bend;
22 today, this exceptional institution has grown to 189 beds and
23 provides treatment to children in 31 South Texas counties; each
24 year, Driscoll admits some 6,500 children for inpatient care, more

1 than 3,500 for day surgery, approximately 40,000 for emergency
2 care, and 132,000 for outpatient care; and

3 WHEREAS, To further its mission of providing high-quality
4 medical services for newborns, infants, and children, the hospital
5 is embarking on a \$12 million emergency department renovation that
6 will increase its capacity to treat life-threatening injuries; and

7 WHEREAS, Driscoll Children's Hospital is an asset of
8 immeasurable value to the citizens of South Texas, and it is a
9 privilege to recognize both the hospital and its founder during
10 this milestone year; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
12 Legislature hereby honor Clara Driscoll and Driscoll Children's
13 Hospital on the occasion of the hospital's 60th anniversary and
14 extend to the hospital's physicians, nurses, administrators, and
15 staff sincere best wishes for continued success in their vital
16 endeavors; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for Driscoll Children's Hospital as an expression of high
19 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.