

By: Menendez

H.R. No. 1826

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Susan Blackwood stepped down as executive director
2 of San Antonio Sports on December 31, 2012, after 16 years of
3 distinguished service to that organization; and

4 WHEREAS, Under Ms. Blackwood's direction, San Antonio Sports
5 excelled in its mission of hosting premier events to boost the local
6 economy and encouraging the development of amateur sports programs
7 and recreational facilities for the benefit of the community; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Blackwood presided over a period of remarkable
9 growth, during which the group attracted numerous high-profile
10 events and increased its annual budget from \$125,000 to \$3.4
11 million; moreover, she played a central role in building the
12 community's strong relationship with NCAA athletics; during her
13 tenure, San Antonio was the site of the basketball Final Four on
14 five different occasions, and it became one of just six locations to
15 be designated as an NCAA Championship City; in 2013 alone, a number
16 of prestigious collegiate events in basketball, fencing, and soccer
17 have taken place or are scheduled for San Antonio; and

18 WHEREAS, This visionary administrator also guided the
19 organization's efforts to use recreational activities as a means of
20 fostering increased self-esteem and improved health among the
21 city's young residents; San Antonio Sports has devoted 60 percent
22 of its budget to such initiatives as establishing fitness programs,
23 developing quality neighborhood athletic facilities, providing
24 education on nutrition, and sponsoring after-school sports clubs

1 that serve nearly 200,000 youths; and

2 WHEREAS, Ms. Blackwood holds a doctoral degree from the
3 University of Nebraska and first became involved in sports as a high
4 school coach; before joining San Antonio Sports in 1996, she worked
5 as an administrator with the University Interscholastic League, as
6 an associate athletic director at The University of Texas, and as
7 the director of athletic relations for Oshman's Sporting Goods; and

8 WHEREAS, Since concluding her responsibilities as executive
9 director, Susan Blackwood has continued to serve San Antonio Sports
10 as its government relations director and will soon head a new
11 fund-raising effort for the organization; in all of her
12 assignments, her dedication and dynamic leadership have helped
13 enhance the vitality of the community, and her record of
14 achievement is widely appreciated by her fellow citizens; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
17 Legislature hereby congratulate Susan Blackwood on her
18 accomplishments as executive director of San Antonio Sports and
19 extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for Ms. Blackwood as an expression of high regard by the
23 Texas House of Representatives.