

By: Farrar

H.R. No. 2794

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Blake Rocap is stepping down as legislative counsel
2 for NARAL Pro-Choice Texas, drawing to a close five years of
3 steadfast service in defense of the reproductive rights of Texas
4 women; and

5 WHEREAS, A statewide nonprofit and nonpartisan organization,
6 NARAL Pro-Choice Texas (NPCT) works to support and protect the
7 right of each woman to make personal and private decisions
8 regarding her reproductive choices and health; the group advocates
9 in behalf of pro-choice legislation and promotes access to a full
10 range of women's health care services; and

11 WHEREAS, Since assuming the role of legislative counsel in
12 2008, Mr. Rocap has coordinated NPCT's political outreach efforts,
13 in addition to serving as a de facto spokesperson to the media on
14 the group's stances and recommendations; a tireless champion of the
15 organization and its goals, he has attended and testified at a
16 multitude of committee hearings and met often with lawmakers to
17 discuss proposed legislation affecting women's health; and

18 WHEREAS, This lifelong Texan draws on a wealth of experience
19 in public interest law; he is a graduate of The University of Texas,
20 where he earned a bachelor's degree in American studies, and of
21 Texas Tech University, where he completed his doctor of
22 jurisprudence degree; while in law school, he was a founding board
23 member of the Student Public Interest Initiative, the social
24 director of the Board of Barristers, and a member of the curriculum

1 committee; and

2 WHEREAS, His early career included summer clerkships with the
3 Texas Civil Rights Project, Jane's Due Process, and the United
4 States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; after practicing
5 as a plaintiff's attorney in the areas of employment discrimination
6 and workplace safety, he accepted a position as general counsel to a
7 statewide political campaign, an experience that deepened his
8 understanding of Texas campaign finance and election law and that
9 cemented his interest in public policy; he additionally gained a
10 familiarity with the legislative process and parliamentary
11 procedure while serving as a committee clerk in the Texas House of
12 Representatives; and

13 WHEREAS, Blake Rocab has worked tirelessly to defend the
14 cause of reproductive freedom in the Lone Star State, and in so
15 doing, he has earned the admiration and appreciation of countless
16 Texas women; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
18 Legislature hereby recognize Blake Rocab for his service to NARAL
19 Pro-Choice Texas and extend to him sincere best wishes for the
20 future; and, be it further

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