

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 3030

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable F. Scott McCown is stepping down as
2 executive director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities in
3 2013; and

4 WHEREAS, CPPP was founded in 1985 by the congregation of
5 Benedictine Sisters in Boerne to improve access to health care for
6 the poor; Scott McCown has guided the center since his retirement as
7 a state district judge in 2002, and during his tenure, the
8 organization's focus has expanded; today, it is known for its
9 research and analysis of policies concerning not only health care
10 but also nutrition, jobs, education, and protection for children;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Judge McCown was twice named one of the 25 Most
13 Powerful People in Texas Politics by *Texas Monthly*, which described
14 him as "a voice for the voiceless"; moreover, he has received
15 numerous accolades, including the 2013 Distinguished Lawyer Award
16 from the Austin Bar Association and the 2007 Vision and Valor Award
17 of Distinction for Exemplary Accomplishments in the Promotion of
18 Social Justice from the School of Social Work at The University of
19 Texas at Austin; and

20 WHEREAS, Elected to the 345th District Court in Travis County
21 in 1989, Judge McCown presided over the 1990-1992 *Edgewood* cases
22 challenging the state's funding of public education; he also
23 presided over a child protection docket by special assignment,
24 hearing more than 2,000 child abuse cases concerning some 4,000

1 children, and in 1998, he made an impassioned plea for greater
2 funding of Child Protective Services in his *Petition in Behalf of*
3 *the Forsaken Children of Texas*, which was influential in
4 legislative decision-making; and

5 WHEREAS, This notable Texan started his career as an attorney
6 with Vinson & Elkins in Houston and was a visiting professor of law
7 at The University of Texas before becoming chief of the Criminal Law
8 Enforcement Division and then a special counsel to the Texas
9 attorney general; born in Dalhart, he graduated cum laude from
10 Texas Christian University and earned his law degree with honors
11 from UT, where he was elected to the Order of the Coif and Order of
12 the Barristers and served on the Board of Editors for the *Texas Law*
13 *Review*; and

14 WHEREAS, Judge McCown is leaving the CPPP to serve as a
15 clinical professor and director of the Children's Rights Clinic at
16 The University of Texas School of Law, where he will teach law
17 students who are representing youth in court in Child Protective
18 Services cases; and

19 WHEREAS, Through his untiring advocacy for social justice,
20 Scott McCown has made a positive difference in the lives of
21 countless Texas children and families, and it is indeed fitting to
22 recognize him as he prepares to embark on the next phase of his
23 impressive career; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
25 Legislature hereby commend F. Scott McCown for his service as
26 executive director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities and
27 congratulate him on his appointment as a clinical professor and

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1 director of the Children's Rights Clinic at the UT School of Law;
2 and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Judge McCown as an expression of high regard by the
5 Texas House of Representatives.