

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 462

WHEREAS, Ken Kramer retired as executive director of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club on July 31, 2012, concluding a notable career with that organization that spanned more than three decades; and

WHEREAS, A native Texan, Mr. Kramer served his country as a member of the United States Army before earning a doctoral degree in political science from Rice University; he subsequently worked as a professor at San Angelo State University and Texas A&M University and became involved with the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter along the way; he served as the group's legislative chair and as a member of the executive committee, and he ultimately left academia in 1982 to focus on environmental advocacy; he was the chapter's contract lobbyist until 1989 when he was hired as its first director; and

WHEREAS, Under his skillful stewardship, the Lone Star Chapter became a model of organizational strength and effective representation, serving as a staunch advocate for improved air quality and state parks and as an important resource regarding state water policy; Mr. Kramer established a long and wide-ranging list of noteworthy conservation achievements, including his successful efforts to encourage the state to retain ownership of the remote 20,000-acre Devils River State Natural Area; his guidance also paved the way toward the reduced use of coal as a power source and Texas' emergence as a national leader in renewable energy production; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kramer continues to contribute to the environmental cause as a member of the Water Conservation Advisory Council, the Advisory Council for the Environmental Science Institute at The University of Texas at Austin, and the board of the Texas Water Foundation; his accomplishments further include serving as editor of *The Living Waters of Texas*, a volume of essays and photographs about our state's water features; and

WHEREAS, Known for his insightful knowledge of policy, Ken Kramer is admired by colleagues as a wise strategist who keeps his humor in spite of the challenges; he has dedicated his career to preserving the Lone Star State's natural resources and to working for clean air, water, and land on behalf of its citizens, and his efforts will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of Texans for years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby congratulate Ken Kramer on his retirement as executive director of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mr. Kramer as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 20, 2013.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate