H.R. No. 440

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The volunteers, staff, and board members who make up 2 the Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates organization are 3 gathering in Austin on February 12, 2015, for CASA Day at the State 4 Capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, Texas CASA is part of a national volunteer movement 6 begun in the 1970s that enlists community volunteers to serve as 7 court advocates for abused and neglected children; these volunteers 8 research the child's situation, provide critical information and 9 recommendations to judges about what is best for the child, and help 10 ensure that children in the foster care system find safe, permanent 11 homes as soon as possible; and

12 WHEREAS, The first CASA program in Texas began in Dallas some 35 years ago; Texas CASA was formed in 1989 and recently celebrated 13 14 its 25th anniversary; Texas CASA provides funding, training, coordination, and assistance to 71 local CASA programs statewide 15 16 that last year engaged more than 8,000 volunteers, who gave 17 life-changing advocacy, help, and encouragement to 24,742 children, more than 50 percent of the children in the foster care 18 19 system; and

20 WHEREAS, CASA volunteers help to give children in the foster 21 care system hope for a better future and provide courts with 22 information they need to make well-informed decisions in child 23 protective services cases, and their efforts help to ensure that 24 the system functions as intended; all those associated with CASA

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are truly deserving of recognition for their service to the State of
 Texas, its courts, and its children; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas 4 Legislature hereby recognize February 12, 2015, as CASA Day at the 5 State Capitol and commend the organization for its noble efforts to 6 aid abused and neglected children; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
prepared for CASA as an expression of high regard by the Texas House
of Representatives.

Otto

H.R. No. 440

Straus Allen Alonzo Alvarado Anchia Anderson of Dallas Anderson of McLennan Ashby Aycock Bell Blanco Bohac Bonnen of Brazoria Bonnen of Galveston Burkett Burns Burrows Button Canales Capriglione Clardy Coleman Collier Cook Craddick Crownover Dale Darby Davis of Dallas Davis of Harris Deshotel Dukes Dutton Elkins Faircloth Fallon Farias Farney Farrar Fletcher Flynn Frank Frullo Galindo Geren Giddings Goldman Gonzales González

Guerra Guillen Gutierrez Harless Hernandez Herrero Howard Huberty Hughes Hunter Isaac Israel Johnson Kacal Keffer Keough King of Hemphill King of Parker King of Taylor King of Uvalde Klick Коор Krause Kuempel Landgraf Larson Laubenberg Leach Longoria Lozano Lucio III Márquez Martinez Martinez Fischer McClendon Menéndez Metcalf Meyer Miles Miller of Comal Miller of Fort Bend Moody Morrison Muñoz, Jr. Murphy Murr Naishtat Nevárez Oliveira

Otto Paddie Parker Paul Peña Phelan Phillips Pickett Price Raney Raymond Reynolds Riddle Rinaldi Rodriguez of Bexar Rodriguez of Travis Romero, Jr. Rose Sanford Schaefer Schofield Shaheen Sheets Sheffield Simmons Simpson Smith Smithee Spitzer Springer Stephenson Stickland Thompson of Brazoria Thompson of Harris Tinderholt Turner of Collin Turner of Harris Turner of Tarrant VanDeaver Villalba Vo Walle White of Bell White of Tyler Workman Wray Wu Zedler Zerwas

H.R. No. 440

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 440 was adopted by the House on February 12, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House