

By: Keough

H.R. No. 867

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Woodlands Church has made a positive difference at
2 home and abroad through its many good works; and

3 WHEREAS, Founded by Kerry and Chris Shook as Fellowship of
4 The Woodlands in 1993, this nondenominational church draws an
5 average attendance of more than 18,000 to services at its campuses
6 in The Woodlands and in several other locations in the Houston area;
7 over the years, the congregation's humanitarian efforts have
8 touched the lives of countless individuals; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2003, the church conducted a spontaneous shoe
10 drive for the homeless, and it went on to collect clothing and
11 donate items to the Houston Food Bank; its Angel Tree initiative has
12 delivered Christmas gifts to more than 40,000 children in need, and
13 at the beginning of every school year, the church gives school
14 supplies to at-risk students of the Conroe, Harris, Tomball, and
15 Humble Independent School Districts; in addition, its Job Support
16 Ministry has served over 10,000 individuals seeking employment; and

17 WHEREAS, The congregation sent more than \$250,000 in
18 humanitarian aid to Banda Aceh following the 2004 tsunami; in the
19 wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, it dispatched volunteers and
20 supplies to Louisiana and Mississippi, as well as to Sabine Pass,
21 and it provided food to first responders and other county
22 employees; the church received the Shelter From the Storm Award
23 from the office of the Harris County judge in recognition of its
24 efforts; in September 2008, it became a FEMA Point of Distribution,

1 supplying food, ice, and water to more than 27,000 area residents;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Demonstrating exceptional compassion, the
4 congregation mobilized relief teams to help victims of Hurricane
5 Sandy and the Moore, Oklahoma, tornado; it has also benefited
6 innumerable people in countries such as Haiti, Kenya, Honduras, and
7 the Dominican Republic through missions providing medical care,
8 food, and other assistance; in addition, it has promoted
9 sustainable food security and economic empowerment through its
10 partnership in the Maseno Project (Just Earth) in northwestern
11 Kenya; and

12 WHEREAS, The members of Woodlands Church have set an
13 inspiring example through their deep commitment to assisting the
14 most vulnerable in their community and around the world, and it is
15 indeed appropriate to recognize their outstanding contributions;
16 now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
18 Legislature hereby honor Woodlands Church for its philanthropic
19 endeavors and extend to the clergy and members sincere best wishes
20 for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

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