

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Dr. J. D. Kennedy retired from the McKinney  
2 Independent School District on December 31, 2014, having rendered  
3 outstanding service to the students and residents of his community  
4 as superintendent; and

5           WHEREAS, For nearly four decades, Dr. Kennedy dedicated  
6 himself to the education of Texas schoolchildren; much of his  
7 career was spent in North Texas, where he led the Decatur and  
8 Midlothian school districts as superintendent before coming to  
9 McKinney in 2009; and

10           WHEREAS, During his time with McKinney ISD, Dr. Kennedy  
11 helped maintain high standards of academic excellence while  
12 overseeing the district's continued growth; in 2011, he was  
13 instrumental in the passage of a bond proposal that allowed for  
14 major renovations and expansions at area campuses, including a \$46  
15 million project at McKinney High School and a \$17 million project at  
16 Faubion Middle School; under his guidance, the district expanded  
17 career and technology programs and saw improved student performance  
18 on AP exams, with all three of the district's high schools being  
19 named among the top three percent in the nation for 2014 by *U.S.*  
20 *News & World Report*; and

21           WHEREAS, Dr. Kennedy has further demonstrated his leadership  
22 skills as a member of the Texas Education Agency Commissioner's  
23 TASA Cabinet of Superintendents and through his service in  
24 positions of responsibility with other professional organizations

1 at the state, regional, and national levels; and

2 WHEREAS, Many students of McKinney ISD will remember  
3 Dr. Kennedy greeting them on their first day of school, and his warm  
4 and welcoming presence will certainly be missed; in the free time  
5 that retirement affords him, he is enjoying the company of his  
6 grandchildren and also has plans to travel and to continue his  
7 involvement with mission trips to Hungary; and

8 WHEREAS, Over the years, Dr. Kennedy led the way in fostering  
9 a supportive and challenging educational environment for the  
10 students of his district, and he may reflect with great pride on his  
11 rich and rewarding career and on his exceptional record of service;  
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
14 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. J. D. Kennedy on his retirement  
15 as superintendent of the McKinney Independent School District and  
16 extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for Dr. Kennedy as an expression of high regard by the  
19 Texas House of Representatives.

Sanford

H.R. No. 880

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 880 was adopted by the House on March 12, 2015, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House