

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Each year, hundreds of thousands of American
2 families and individuals face homelessness or the prospect of
3 losing their homes; and

4 WHEREAS, A homeless person is generally defined as an
5 individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime
6 residence, or whose primary nighttime residence is a public or
7 private place not designed for regular sleeping accommodation; and

8 WHEREAS, While it is impossible to measure the rate of
9 homelessness with perfect accuracy, the Texas Homeless Network
10 estimates that close to 60,000 Texans experience homelessness on
11 any given day and that more than 2,200 of these people are youths;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, A significant number of these Texans defy the
14 commonly held stereotype of the homeless; according to a 2013
15 point-in-time count, families represent 30 percent of the state's
16 homeless population, and 2.4 percent of the homeless are
17 unaccompanied minors; children who lack safe and permanent housing
18 often suffer from health and emotional problems as well as impeded
19 academic progress, with fewer than one in four graduating from high
20 school; and

21 WHEREAS, The State of Texas is home to a great number of
22 charities, government agencies, businesses, and advocacy groups
23 that are committed to serving homeless populations and developing
24 solutions to prevent and reduce homelessness in our communities;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, To that end, advocates from across the state are
3 gathering in Austin on April 2, 2015, to observe Homelessness
4 Awareness Day at the State Capitol; this occasion presents an
5 opportunity to promote greater understanding of issues facing
6 homeless individuals and to foster solidarity in statewide
7 endeavors to end homelessness, a problem with implications for the
8 future of our society that cannot be overstated; now, therefore, be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
11 Legislature hereby recognize April 2, 2015, as Homelessness
12 Awareness Day and commend all those endeavoring to aid the homeless
13 for their important work.

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H.R. No. 1610

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1610 was adopted by the House on April 23, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House