

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Deborah Bell of Gilmer, the founder of Refuge
2 International, truly merits special recognition for the many
3 contributions she has made to the health and well-being of
4 countless individuals through her humanitarian efforts; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2003, moved by what she saw during a volunteer
6 trip to Guatemala, Ms. Bell started Refuge International, a
7 nonprofit organization dedicated to improving lives in areas where
8 such essentials as adequate health care, nutrition, and clean water
9 are lacking or nonexistent; under her able guidance, the group
10 leads numerous mission trips each year and has established
11 permanent medical clinics in San Raymundo, Sarstun, and Chocoma,
12 Guatemala; partially funded through the sale of items handmade in
13 remote villages, Refuge International also digs wells, advances
14 educational projects, distributes deworming medication, and works
15 with government agencies to send Guatemalan children to the
16 Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas for life-changing surgeries; and

17 WHEREAS, Ms. Bell's can-do attitude and boundless compassion
18 also benefit residents of the Longview area, where she has served
19 the local community for many years as a nurse practitioner;
20 furthermore, in 2009, she forged a partnership between Refuge
21 International and physicians, nurses, and students from Longview
22 Emergency Medicine Associates and The University of Texas at Tyler
23 to provide free medical care to the homeless population housed at
24 Hiway 80 Rescue Mission; and

1 WHEREAS, In appreciation of her tireless efforts in behalf of
2 others, this highly esteemed individual has received a number of
3 accolades, including a 2005 Stand on a Better World Award, the 2007
4 Texas Nurse Practitioner of the Year Award, and the 2012 Citizen of
5 the Year Award from the Longview Rotary Club; and

6 WHEREAS, Deborah Bell's public-spiritedness and volunteerism
7 are an inspiration to many people, and her commitment to enhancing
8 the quality of life for people both locally and abroad has earned
9 her the enduring respect and admiration of all who are privileged to
10 know her; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
12 Legislature hereby honor Deborah Bell for her outstanding service
13 to those in need through her work with Refuge International and
14 extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
15 further

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

Simpson
Larson

Straus	González	Paddie
Allen	Guerra	Parker
Alonzo	Guillen	Paul
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Peña
Anchia	Harless	Phelan
Anderson of Dallas	Hernandez	Phillips
Anderson of McLennan	Herrero	Pickett
Ashby	Howard	Price
Aycock	Huberty	Raney
Bell	Hughes	Raymond
Bernal	Hunter	Reynolds
Blanco	Isaac	Riddle
Bohac	Israel	Rinaldi
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Rodriguez of Bexar
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rodriguez of Travis
Burkett	Keffer	Romero, Jr.
Burns	Keough	Rose
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Sanford
Button	King of Parker	Schaefer
Canales	King of Taylor	Schofield
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schubert
Clardy	Klick	Shaheen
Coleman	Koop	Sheets
Collier	Krause	Sheffield
Cook	Kuempel	Simmons
Craddick	Landgraf	Simpson
Crownover	Larson	Smith
Cyrier	Laubenberg	Smithee
Dale	Leach	Spitzer
Darby	Longoria	Springer
Davis of Dallas	Lozano	Stephenson
Davis of Harris	Lucio III	Stickland
Deshotel	Márquez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dukes	Martinez	Thompson of Harris
Dutton	Martinez Fischer	Tinderholt
Elkins	McClendon	Turner of Collin
Faircloth	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Fallon	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farias	Miles	VanDeaver
Farney	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Farrar	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Fletcher	Moody	Walle
Flynn	Morrison	White of Bell
Frank	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Frullo	Murphy	Workman
Galindo	Murr	Wray
Geren	Naishtat	Wu
Giddings	Nevárez	Zedler
Goldman	Oliveira	Zerwas
Gonzales	Otto	

H.R. No. 1743

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1743 was adopted by the House on April 13, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House