

By: Sanford

H.R. No. 2513

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable John Payton has distinguished himself
2 as justice of the peace of Precinct 3, Place 2, in Collin County for
3 more than a quarter-century, and his work in behalf of his fellow
4 citizens is truly deserving of recognition; and

5 WHEREAS, John Payton ran his first campaign for Collin County
6 justice of the peace at the age of 18, while a senior at Plano East
7 Senior High School; despite his youth, he secured 52 percent of the
8 vote in the 1990 Republican primary race, defeating his incumbent
9 opponent and eventually winning the general election; his victory
10 received national attention from media outlets, earning him a spot
11 in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the world's youngest judge
12 and an invitation to appear on *Late Night with David Letterman*; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the course of his six terms as justice of the
14 peace, Judge Payton has worked diligently to curb truancy in local
15 schools; he has offered stern but encouraging advice to students in
16 his courtroom, and his work to keep them in school and out of
17 juvenile detention has garnered him the respect and appreciation of
18 many parents; and

19 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan holds an associate's degree from
20 Collin College, and he has pursued further studies at Dallas
21 Baptist University; active in his community, Judge Payton
22 volunteers his time to Habitat for Humanity and often spends his
23 weekends completing service projects with area youth; and

24 WHEREAS, Through his commitment and leadership, John Payton

H.R. No. 2513

1 has made a positive difference in the lives of countless residents
2 of Collin County, and his dedicated efforts are a continuing source
3 of inspiration to all who know him; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
5 Legislature hereby commend the Honorable John Payton for his
6 service as justice of the peace of Precinct 3, Place 2, in Collin
7 County and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be
8 it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for Judge Payton as an expression of high regard by the
11 Texas House of Representatives.