

By: Moody

H.R. No. 3093

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, July 26, 2015, marks the 25th anniversary of the
2 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and this important
3 observance provides a fitting opportunity to recognize Volar Center
4 for Independent Living (CIL) in El Paso and its notable efforts to
5 advance the rights, dignity, and aspirations of persons with
6 disabilities; and

7 WHEREAS, Established in 1981, Volar CIL is an organization of
8 and for persons with disabilities, with the mission to advocate for
9 human and civil rights and community options and to empower
10 individuals with disabilities to live the lives they choose; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout its history, Volar CIL has been shaped by
12 proactive El Pasoans with disabilities who together have provided
13 leadership and advocacy regarding public policy issues significant
14 to the community of persons with disabilities who live in the West
15 Texas and United States-Mexico border regions, including the
16 development of a city ordinance outlawing discrimination against
17 citizens with disabilities, which was enacted on August 8, 1989,
18 one year before the passage of the ADA; in the aftermath of the 1999
19 Supreme Court ruling that abolished the unjustified institutional
20 isolation and segregation of people with disabilities, Volar CIL
21 has assisted over 400 El Pasoans in transitioning into the
22 community-based homes of their choice; and

23 WHEREAS, Volar CIL has led the community in persuading the
24 commissioners court and city council to reexamine their

1 governmental plans for compliance with the ADA, and it was
2 instrumental in bringing about the city's 2011 Analysis of
3 Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and the county's hiring of an ADA
4 coordinator; its ongoing efforts are focused on securing the future
5 of El Paso residents with disabilities by engaging in opportunities
6 that will continue to protect and enhance their human and civil
7 rights, which include the Building Community Capacity Program and
8 the adoption of the nationwide Youth Leadership Forum; and

9 WHEREAS, The commitment of everyone associated with Volar CIL
10 to the cause of equality has greatly benefited innumerable groups
11 of persons with disabilities and made their community a more
12 inclusive place to live, and thus, Volar Center for Independent
13 Living indeed merits special recognition for its many commendable
14 achievements; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
16 Legislature hereby honor Volar Center for Independent Living and
17 extend sincere best wishes to all those involved with the
18 organization for continued success with their important work; and,
19 be it further

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