

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 418

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize educator, activist, and community leader Jewell Christine White Kyker on the occasion of her 90th birthday; and

WHEREAS, Chris Kyker was born March 30, 1925; she grew up in Lubbock and attended Abilene Christian University where she earned multiple degrees; she went on to serve as speech and theater director at her alma mater, which has honored her with its Outstanding Alumnus Award; and

WHEREAS, She married Rex Paxton Kyker in 1946, and they were blessed with five children and in time with grandchildren; she instilled in them the importance of education and public service, and they collectively hold dozens of college degrees and are involved in leadership roles with many community organizations and boards; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kyker has been an active and effective advocate on issues related to mental health and aging for many years, and she has received numerous awards and honors for her work; she was the founding president and chief executive officer of Disability Resources, Incorporated, and the founding director of the West Central Texas Area Agency on Aging; Governor Bill Clements named her as the first executive director of the Texas Department on Aging, and she served as a delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging and as the Texas state coordinator for the conference in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kyker has been a leader in the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature; she served as its speaker and

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as treasurer of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Foundation, and in 2007, Governor Rick Perry presented her with the Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award for her work with the organization; and

WHEREAS, A beloved and respected citizen of our state, she is noted for her wisdom and her wise counsel, and her enthusiasm for living each day to the fullest is an inspiration to all those who know her; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 84th Legislature, hereby commend Jewell Christine White Kyker on her commitment to public service and her many contributions to our state and extend to her best wishes for a memorable 90th birthday celebration; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Whitmire

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 23, 2015.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate