

By: Lang

H.R. No. 1633

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Jim Keffer concluded his noteworthy
2 tenure as the representative for Texas House District 60 in January
3 2017, after 10 consecutive terms in office; and

4 WHEREAS, First elected in 1996, Representative Keffer
5 demonstrated a lasting commitment to lowering taxes and eliminating
6 debt; he coauthored the Texas Taxpayer Appraisal Bill of Rights,
7 which created the state's first appraisal cap on homeowner property
8 taxes, and in 1997, 1999, and 2007, he authored three of the largest
9 tax cuts in Texas history; and

10 WHEREAS, Representative Keffer also earned a reputation as a
11 powerful advocate for rural communities, and he led efforts to
12 reform the education system, eliminate Medicaid fraud, and provide
13 additional financial security for retired teachers; as chair of the
14 Natural Resources Committee, he played a key role in the passage of
15 historic legislation to fund the State Water Plan, and he served
16 three terms as chair of the Energy Resources Committee; moreover,
17 he chaired the Ways and Means Committee and the Select Committee on
18 Property Tax Relief, and he served as both chair and vice chair of
19 the Economic Development Committee and as a member of numerous
20 other committees, including Business and Industry, Redistricting,
21 and Pensions and Investments; and

22 WHEREAS, In 2011, Representative Keffer was named one of the
23 state's best legislators by *Texas Monthly* magazine, and he was
24 selected as one of the top five legislators by Gallery Watch; in

1 addition, he garnered such prestigious accolades as the Golden
2 Flame Award from the Family and Consumer Sciences Teachers
3 Association of Texas and the Chairman's Circle Award from the
4 Republican Party of Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, A graduate of Texas Tech University, Representative
6 Keffer is the president of EBAA Iron Sales; his return to private
7 life allows him to spend more time with his wife of 40 years,
8 Leslie, and a treasured family that includes three sons and two
9 grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, Throughout his two decades in office, Jim Keffer
11 represented his constituents with vision, skill, and dedication,
12 and his lasting contributions to the Lone Star State have earned the
13 deep respect and appreciation of all Texans; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
15 Legislature hereby commend the Honorable Jim Keffer for his
16 outstanding service as a member of the Texas Legislature and extend
17 to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Representative Keffer as an expression of high regard
20 by the Texas House of Representatives.