

By: Dale

H.R. No. 1886

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Donna L. Nelson is retiring as chair of the Public  
2 Utility Commission of Texas on May 15, 2017, drawing to a close an  
3 exemplary career in public service that has spanned nearly three  
4 decades; and

5           WHEREAS, Appointed to the Public Utility Commission by  
6 Governor Rick Perry in 2008, Ms. Nelson was named chair three years  
7 later, and she was subsequently reappointed by Governor Greg  
8 Abbott; over the course of her nine-year tenure, she oversaw the  
9 planning and construction of the state's competitive renewable  
10 energy zones, a \$7 billion project to foster the competitive  
11 development of renewable energy production; moreover, she has  
12 fostered free-market principles that have resulted in reliable and  
13 affordable utilities for consumers; and

14           WHEREAS, Ms. Nelson has shared her expertise in the Texas  
15 electric market model with colleagues around the world, including  
16 counterparts in India and Australia; in addition, she has served in  
17 leadership roles with a number of professional organizations, among  
18 them the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the Southwest Power  
19 Pool Regional State Committee, and the National Association of  
20 Regulatory Utility Commissioners; and

21           WHEREAS, Before joining the commission, Ms. Nelson was a  
22 special assistant and advisor to Governor Perry on energy and  
23 telecommunications issues, and she assisted the Governor's  
24 Competitiveness Council with the preparation of the 2008 Texas

1 State Energy Plan; previously, she served as director of the Public  
2 Utility Commission's telecommunications section, as legal advisor  
3 to the PUC chair, and as an assistant attorney general; she holds a  
4 bachelor's degree from Black Hills State College and a law degree  
5 from Texas Tech University; and

6 WHEREAS, Donna Nelson has greatly benefited her fellow Texans  
7 through her vision, skill, and dedication as PUC chair, and as she  
8 embarks on the next exciting chapter of her life, she may indeed  
9 reflect with pride on her long record of outstanding service to the  
10 Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby honor Donna L. Nelson on the occasion of her  
13 retirement as chair of the Public Utility Commission of Texas and  
14 that she be extended sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it  
15 further

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