

By: Ashby

H.R. No. 1959

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mary Ann Whiteker is retiring as superintendent of
2 the Hudson Independent School District on June 30, 2017, drawing to
3 a close an outstanding career in education that has spanned nearly
4 four and a half decades; and

5 WHEREAS, After graduating as valedictorian of her class at
6 Corrigan-Camden High School, Ms. Whiteker studied education at
7 Stephen F. Austin State University, where she earned both her
8 bachelor's and master's degrees; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Whiteker began her career teaching first grade
10 at Corrigan-Camden Elementary School in 1973; she became elementary
11 curriculum supervisor for Corrigan-Camden ISD in 1984, and the
12 following year, she accepted the post of district curriculum
13 director; in 1986, she transferred to Hudson ISD to work as its
14 curriculum director, and she went on to serve as assistant
15 superintendent and interim superintendent before being named
16 superintendent in 1995; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the course of her tenure at the helm of Hudson
18 ISD, Ms. Whiteker has helped pass two bond issues totaling \$24
19 million; she has been instrumental in the district's earning high
20 rankings from the Texas Education Agency, Standard and Poor's, and
21 the Texas Education and Business Coalition, among others; she also
22 helped establish the Beth and Horace Stubblefield Learning Center,
23 a facility designed to help students at risk of dropping out of
24 school; and

1 WHEREAS, A statewide leader in her professional community,
2 Ms. Whiteker has been active with the Texas Association of School
3 Administrators; she is a past president of the Texas Association of
4 Midsize Schools and the Texas Association of Community Schools, and
5 she has served on the boards of the Region VII Education Service
6 Center and the Texas Association of Suburban/Mid-Urban Schools; in
7 recognition of her contributions, she was presented with the Golden
8 Anvil Award for Community Service from the Pineywoods Foundation,
9 and she was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to serve on the Interim
10 Committee for School Finance; moreover, she has twice been named
11 Superintendent of the Year for Region VII, and in 2015, she was
12 named Texas Superintendent of the Year; and

13 WHEREAS, In addition to her professional achievements,
14 Ms. Whiteker has been active with the Lufkin/Angelina County
15 Chamber of Commerce, the Angelina County Drug-Free Communities and
16 Schools task force, the Chamber Coalition for a Better Community,
17 and the Lufkin Rotary Club; she is also a valued congregant of First
18 United Methodist Church; and

19 WHEREAS, Ms. Whiteker's dedication to the highest standards
20 of her profession has benefited countless students in East Texas,
21 and she may reflect with pride on a career well spent as she embarks
22 upon the next exciting chapter of her life; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
24 Legislature hereby congratulate Mary Ann Whiteker on her retirement
25 as superintendent of the Hudson Independent School District and
26 extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for Ms. Whiteker as an expression of high regard by the
2 Texas House of Representatives.