

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 483

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Tom "Smitty" Smith, who has retired as director of the Texas office of Public Citizen after 32 years of exceptional service; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of his distinguished career, Tom Smith has been a staunch advocate for the environment, governmental ethics, and campaign finance reform; and

WHEREAS, An Illinois native and a graduate of Valparaiso University, Mr. Smith joined Public Citizen in 1985 after having begun his professional career in public service with the national Volunteers in Service to America program; he also worked as a food bank development coordinator and as a legal assistant with Texas Rural Legal Aid and with Prairie State Legal Services; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith has played a vital role in the creation of much of the state's most important environmental legislation, notably in making Texas a national leader in renewable energy and in developing its building energy code, which has brought about great savings in energy use; he was instrumental in the establishment of the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan and in mobilizing citizens to halt the construction of proposed coal and nuclear power plants; and

WHEREAS, He has played a key role in the writing and passage of major state ethics reforms, and he advocated for the creation of the Texas Ethics Commission; he received the Best Lifetime Achievement Award from the *Austin Chronicle* in 2016, and his many other accolades include the Heinz Award and the Environmental Excellence Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby commend Tom "Smitty" Smith on his many accomplishments and the significant impact he has had on our state and extend to him best wishes for continued success in all his endeavors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on March 23, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate