

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 796

WHEREAS, Clifton L. Holmes of Longview is retiring from the firm of Holmes and Moore on May 18, 2017, drawing to a close a noteworthy legal career that has spanned a half century; and

WHEREAS, A native of Kilgore, "Scrappy" Holmes completed his bachelor's degree in economics at The University of Texas at Austin and went on to graduate cum laude from George Washington University National Law Center; he established a reputation as one of the top criminal defense lawyers in Texas, and he has successfully defended clients facing the death penalty in both state and federal courts; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his profession, Mr. Holmes has served the legal community in a number of leadership roles; he was a director of the State Bar of Texas and chair of the organization's Criminal Justice Section, Special Committee on Death Row Representation, and Standing Committee on Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure; in addition, he served as president of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, as chair of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Project, and as a trustee of the Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation; he was editor of *Voice for the Defense*, and since 1976 he has been a member of the faculty of the Texas Criminal Trial Advocacy Institute; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holmes was inducted into the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Hall of Fame in 2007, and he has been named as a Texas Super Lawyer in multiple years; in 1992, Secretary of State John Hannah designated him as an official Texas Hero; moreover,

Mr. Holmes was selected as Outstanding Criminal Defense Lawyer of the Year for 1996 by the Texas Criminal Justice Section of the State Bar, and he was twice ranked among the Top Five Go-To Lawyers in Texas by *Texas Lawyer* magazine; in all his endeavors, he has enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Laqueta, and their children, Nikki, Lacy, Shelly, and Bryan; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of his long and distinguished career, Scrappy Holmes has earned the respect and admiration of innumerable people, and as he embarks on the next exciting chapter of his life, he may indeed reflect with pride on his achievements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby congratulate Clifton "Scrappy" Holmes on his retirement and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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

Hughes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 16, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate