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By:  White H.R. No. 83

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Texas Juvenile Justice Professional Day is taking place on February 12, 2019, and this occasion offers an ideal opportunity to recognize the outstanding contributions of the dedicated individuals working in this field; and

WHEREAS, The Texas juvenile justice system is regarded as one of the most innovative in the country and is composed of 166 community-based probation departments that serve the state's 254 counties in partnership with the Texas Juvenile Justice Department; and

WHEREAS, More than 8,200 certified juvenile probation and supervision officers work tirelessly and courageously to help rehabilitate young people, handling 100 percent of the referrals received by the juvenile justice system each year and providing ongoing services at the local level to 95 percent of those referrals; and

WHEREAS, When dealing with young offenders, the Texas legal system depends on the efforts of juvenile court judges, juvenile prosecutors, juvenile defense attorneys and advocates, and law enforcement officers and their staff to break the cycle of youth crime and violence and protect the public from delinquent conduct; to ensure the consistency and quality of such services throughout the state, Texas Juvenile Justice Department staff members also offer assistance and training to all juvenile justice personnel, in addition to providing rehabilitation services directly to young offenders committed to the department's facilities; and

WHEREAS, Through their hard work and expertise, juvenile justice professionals make a positive difference in the lives of at-risk youth and help maintain the security of the citizens of Texas, and their contributions are indeed deserving of recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize February 12, 2019, as Texas Juvenile Justice Professional Day and commend youth probation personnel, members of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, and all those involved in the juvenile justice field for the essential services they provide.