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By:  Bonnen of Galveston H.R. No. 399

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The members of the McComb family of Austin have set an inspiring example for their fellow Texans through their dedicated efforts to assist arthritis sufferers and other patients undergoing treatment for serious medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, Angela and Chris McComb are the devoted parents of three children, Clay, Molly, and AnneMarie; after Molly and AnneMarie were diagnosed with juvenile idiopathic arthritis, the couple made it their mission to speak out for their children and other vulnerable patients, which has led to their service as Arthritis Ambassadors for the Arthritis Foundation; along the way, the family has helped raise thousands of dollars for the foundation's Arthritis Walk in Austin, and at 12 years of age, Molly had the distinction of being named the Arthritis Walk Hero for that event in 2012; and

WHEREAS, During the 85th Legislative Session in 2017, the McCombs played an important role in the successful effort to pass Senate Bill 680; that legislation regulates the use of the insurance practice known as step therapy, wherein patients are forced to test the effectiveness of cheaper, alternative prescription drugs before insurers will cover the costs of medications originally recommended by their doctors; in an editorial that was published in the *Austin American-Statesman* on March 21, 2017, Angela McComb shared her family's difficult experiences with step therapy, which negatively impacted the children's comfort and medical stability; on May 23 of that year, S.B. 680 was signed into law by Governor Greg Abbott; and

WHEREAS, Through their passionate pursuit of a vital cause, the McCombs have demonstrated the power of grassroots activism to effect meaningful change in our state, and their contributions have made a difference in the lives of countless Texas families like their own; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby honor the members of the McComb family for their exemplary achievements as health-care and patients'-rights advocates and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued success with their commendable work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the family as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.