86R14940 BK-D

By:  Morrison H.R. No. 641

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The City of Victoria is bidding a fond farewell to Dr. Yusuke Yahagi in April 2019, when he retires from his position at Citizens Medical Center and leaves the community that he has served for more than a decade; and

WHEREAS, A native of Japan who has made his home in the Lone Star State for much of his career, Dr. Yahagi joined the medical staff at Citizens Medical Center as a cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon 13 years ago, after previously working in San Antonio and in Lubbock, where he was chief of cardiac surgery at Texas Tech University; admired for his skill and his exceptional manner with patients, he was named the city's "Best Cardiologist" by the *Victoria Advocate* in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Yahagi is also a talented musician, and he is the front man for the band Dr. Yahagi and the Mended Hearts; over the years, the Mended Hearts have raised thousands of dollars for charitable groups through performances and benefit concerts, including a sum of $10,000 for survivors of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan; Dr. Yahagi and his bandmates have also helped support the Relay for Life, the Vine School for children with communication disorders, and other deserving causes, and a portion of their album sales go to the surgeon's own charity, the Yahagi Heart Foundation; and

WHEREAS, This multitalented gentleman enjoys running, lifting weights, and painting in his leisure hours, and he authored a novel, *The Exchange Soldier*, about a boy who attends a military academy in Tokyo; with his retirement, he and his wife, April, are looking forward to having the opportunity to spend more time with their three daughters and their grandson; and

WHEREAS, Although he will be sorely missed in Victoria, Dr. Yusuke Yahagi carries with him the best wishes of his many friends, patients, and fans as he embarks on what is certain to be another exciting chapter in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby honor Dr. Yusuke Yahagi for his years of service to Victoria and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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