86R16859 GM-D

By:  Springer H.R. No. 857

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Rayse Richardson, a member of the Bryan Fire Department, is working to make a difference in the fight against cancer as the founder of a nonprofit organization, Faithful and Fearless; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Richardson has waged his own valiant battle with the disease since 2006; diagnosed with oligodendroglioma, a type of brain tumor, at age 21, he has since undergone several surgeries and a 13-month-long course of chemotherapy in his ongoing campaign to halt the growth of the cancer; he has surpassed doctors' original expectations that he would survive five years and now faces a far more optimistic future, looking forward to one day declaring himself cancer-free; and

WHEREAS, While receiving care at MD Anderson, Mr. Richardson was prescribed proton therapy by his doctors, but his insurance provider refused to cover the treatment; this experience drove him to establish Faithful and Fearless to help alleviate the financial stresses that burden other cancer patients, including treatment and travel expenses; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his ordeal, Mr. Richardson has benefited greatly from the support of his parents, Reyse Richardson and Tammie Avara; a firefighter and paramedic, he devoted himself to his work with the City of Bowie Fire Department for nine years before transferring to the Bryan Fire Department, where he has proudly served for the past two years; and

WHEREAS, Demonstrating compassion and selflessness in the midst of personal adversity, Rayse Richardson is a hero and an inspiration to all who know him, and it is a pleasure to wish him well as he begins a new chapter of his life as a champion for patients in need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commend Rayse Richardson for his work with Faithful and Fearless and honor him for the bravery, determination, and faith that he has demonstrated in his battle with cancer; and, be it further

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