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By:  Morrison H.R. No. 922

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Margaret Rice has made invaluable contributions to the University of Houston-Victoria as an administrator, professor, and community member; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rice began her career with UHV in 1999, when she accepted a position as director of the university's Letting Education Achieve Dreams program; in that role, she worked tirelessly to increase college enrollment from historically underrepresented groups in the UHV service area; she went on to become executive director of student services and regional outreach and then chief of staff, and in 2011 she was named interim associate vice president for community relations; she retired in 2016 as the special assistant to the provost and as a professor in the School of Education, Health Professions, and Human Development; and

WHEREAS, During her tenure, Dr. Rice played a key role in a number of major developments at the university, including the addition of freshmen and sophomores to the campus and the creation of an online master's degree in adult and higher education; she also wrote the school's Recruitment and Retention Plan and consulted with community organizations to facilitate strategic planning sessions; and

WHEREAS, Since her retirement, Dr. Rice has remained involved in the UHV community, and she and her family endowed the Justin Truett Hunt Memorial Scholarship in 2016; moreover, she serves on the board of the Kenedy Independent School District Education Foundation and the Victoria Bach Festival; Dr. Rice holds a master's degree in religious education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a doctorate in educational human resource development from Texas A&M University; and

WHEREAS, For the past two decades, Margaret Rice has helped to advance the mission of the University of Houston-Victoria, and she may take well-deserved pride in all she has accomplished in behalf of UHV students, faculty, and staff; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commend Dr. Margaret Rice for her contributions to the University of Houston-Victoria and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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