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By:  Buckley H.R. No. 986

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Variety, the Children's Charity of Texas, has long made a positive difference in the lives of young Texans with special needs, and members of the organization are gathering in Austin on March 27, 2019, to celebrate Variety Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, In 1935, a Dallas-based chapter of the Variety Club, a social and charitable organization, was chartered by a group of Texas business leaders; its founders shared a common belief that children affected by poverty, abuse, and neglect, as well as those with illnesses and disabilities, should be given the same opportunities as their peers; today, Variety of Texas works to realize the vision of a world without isolation and stigma for children with special needs and their families; and

WHEREAS, For nearly 85 years, Variety has provided financial assistance that has helped thousands of families afford lifesaving medical procedures, along with wheelchair-accessible vans, service dogs, adapted tricycles, iPads, cranial helmets, and other items and services that are often not covered by insurance programs; the organization also operates Variety's Peaceable Kingdom Retreat for Children, which was founded in 1984 to serve children with chronic illnesses in Bell County; each year, VPKRC hosts more than 6,000 campers and offers them the opportunity to enjoy the excitement of camp, to participate in accessible field trips and activities, and to learn more about their natural environment; and

WHEREAS, The compassionate work of Variety has helped provide countless young Texans with the support, encouragement, and confidence they need to reach their highest potential, and it is indeed fitting to pay tribute to this outstanding organization; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize March 27, 2019, as Variety Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those visiting sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin; and, be it further

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