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By:  Flynn H.R. No. 1464

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Sandy Hilliard of Canton is stepping down in 2019 as president of the Region 4 Child Welfare Board and as vice president of the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, drawing to a close more than two decades of exemplary volunteer service with the state's foster care programs; and

WHEREAS, A longtime champion for foster children, Ms. Hilliard has made a positive difference in the lives of countless young Texans; she has served for five years as president of the Region 4 CWB, which is made up of 23 counties in East Texas, and for two years as vice president of the TCCWB, which oversees all 254 county welfare boards in the state; moreover, she was a member of the Van Zandt County CWB for two decades, and in her work as a court appointed special advocate in Van Zandt County, she helped facilitate the adoption of 11 children; and

WHEREAS, This caring woman's other community contributions include serving for 18 years on the Tri-County Selective Service Board, which covers Kaufman, Rockwall, and Van Zandt Counties; in addition, she was a member of the Cancer Board of Van Zandt County for three years, serving as chair of the county's first two Relays for Life; for 45 years, she has performed as "Mrs. Claus" at holiday celebrations; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous honors, Ms. Hilliard has been recognized as Woman of the Year by the Canton Chamber of Commerce, as Woman of the Year by Van Zandt County, as Volunteer of the Year by the Van Zandt County CWB, as Child Welfare Board Member Volunteer of the Year for Region 4, as State Volunteer of the Year by the TCCWB, and as Citizen of the Year by the East Texas Council of Governments; and

WHEREAS, In all her endeavors, Ms. Hilliard enjoys the love and support of her husband, Cary Hilliard, and she takes great pride in her two children, her four grandchildren, and her great-granddaughter; and

WHEREAS, Texas is fortunate to have such compassionate and engaged residents as Sandy Hilliard, whose history of volunteerism is an inspiration to all who know her; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commend Sandy Hilliard for her 20 years of volunteer service with the state's foster care programs 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 Ms. Hilliard as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.