

By: Price

H.R. No. 196

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The volunteers, staff, and board members who make up
2 the Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates organization are
3 gathering in Austin on February 5, 2019, for CASA Day at the State
4 Capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, Texas CASA is part of a national volunteer movement
6 begun in the 1970s that enlists community volunteers to serve as
7 court advocates for children who have been abused or neglected;
8 these volunteers research the child's situation, provide critical
9 information and recommendations to judges about what is best for
10 the child, and help ensure that children in the foster care system
11 find safe, permanent homes as soon as possible; and

12 WHEREAS, The first CASA program in Texas was established in
13 Dallas almost four decades ago, and Texas CASA, which was formed in
14 1989, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year; the
15 organization provides funding, training, coordination, and
16 assistance to 72 local CASA programs in 217 of the state's 254
17 counties; last year, the network engaged nearly 11,000 volunteers,
18 who gave life-changing assistance and encouragement to more than
19 30,000 children and young people in state care; and

20 WHEREAS, CASA volunteers help to give children in the foster
21 care system hope for a better future; these volunteers provide
22 courts with the information they need to make well-informed
23 decisions in child protective services cases, and their efforts are
24 vital to ensuring that the system functions as intended; all those

1 associated with CASA are truly deserving of recognition for their
2 service to the State of Texas, its courts, and its children; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
5 Legislature hereby recognize February 5, 2019, as CASA Day at the
6 State Capitol and commend the organization for its exemplary work;
7 and, be it further

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