

By: Springer

H.R. No. 857

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

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

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

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