

By: Hughes

S.C.R. No. 52

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Samuel Dale Allen has worked tirelessly to improve
2 interactions between law enforcement and Texans with health
3 conditions that may impede communication; and

4 WHEREAS, A San Antonio native, Samuel Allen was diagnosed
5 with high-functioning autism as a child; he began advocating for
6 others with autism as a student, and he has helped educate the
7 public about the condition; moreover, he has raised vital awareness
8 of the misunderstandings that can occur when an officer makes a
9 traffic stop involving someone with autism, Asperger Syndrome, mild
10 intellectual disabilities, deafness, speech disorders, or other
11 impediments; his accomplishments earned him a Spirit of Giving
12 Award from the *San Antonio Business Journal*; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Allen has been a strong voice in support of
14 S.B. 976, which allows a person with a communication impediment the
15 option to disclose this information when registering their vehicle
16 through the Department of Motor Vehicles; this would place the
17 diagnosis in the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunication System,
18 ensuring that an officer is alerted prior to approaching the
19 vehicle, while maintaining the privacy of the driver; and

20 WHEREAS, Through his dedicated efforts, Samuel Allen is
21 helping to make encounters safer for officers and people with
22 communication impediments, and his contributions have earned the
23 respect and admiration of his fellow citizens; now, therefore, be
24 it

1 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
2 hereby commend Samuel Allen for his civic engagement and advocacy
3 for individuals with communication impediments and, contingent on
4 the passing of S.B. 976, recognize Section 502.061, Transportation
5 Code, as the Samuel Allen Law.