

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 508**

**WHEREAS,** Christopher L. Williston, CAE, retired as president and chief executive officer of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas on December 31, 2018, after 30 years of leading the association and advocating on behalf of independent community banks throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS,** The association has benefited greatly from Mr. Williston's passion for and dedication to the community banking industry; under his guidance, it has grown to become the largest state association of its kind in the country, representing more than 2,000 banks and branches in cities and towns of all sizes; over the years, he has worked tirelessly to ensure that Texas bankers' voices are heard and that their interests are effectively represented, and the many highlights of his tenure have included championing regulatory relief efforts that will have a notable impact on the success and viability of community banks; and

**WHEREAS,** An alumnus of Texas Tech University, Mr. Williston received his Certified Association Executive designation at the age of 26, becoming one of the youngest recipients in the nation; throughout his career, he has served on a host of boards and councils, including those of the Independent Community Bankers of America, the Texas Society of Association Executives, and the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking; he has further contributed to his peers through his work as a sought-after speaker on association management, as a community banking consultant, as a facilitator of strategic planning

sessions for other associations, and as the author of the widely acclaimed *The Association Executive's Little Black Book*; and

**WHEREAS**, Christopher Williston's leadership, determination, and vision have helped position the Texas community banking industry well for the future, and he has earned the lasting respect and gratitude of the countless fellow Texans who have come to know him as a colleague, mentor, and friend; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby commend Christopher L. Williston, CAE, for his years of service as president and chief executive officer of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mr. Williston as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

Buckingham

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 27, 2019.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate