87S31619 TBO-D

By:  Zwiener H.R. No. 284

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Kai Shappley of Austin has distinguished herself through her exceptional work as an advocate for the transgender youth community in Texas; and

WHEREAS, A clear and thoughtful communicator with maturity beyond her 10 years, Kai has already taken part in numerous committee hearings of the Texas Legislature; in 2017, she joined her mother, Kimberly Shappley, in speaking out against bills that would have banned transgender people from accessing restrooms that match their gender identity; in April 2021, during the 87th Regular Session, Kai offered valuable input on Senate Bills 1311 and 1646, which sought to prevent transgender youth from receiving gender-affirming health care, as well as Senate Bill 29, which sought to limit transgender students' participation on sports teams; moreover, she has raised awareness on a national level by sharing her story in an award-winning documentary; and

WHEREAS, Kai has further distinguished herself through her work as an actor in the Netflix series *The Baby-Sitters Club*; she is currently attending the fifth grade, and her favorite subjects are math, science, and geology; in her free time, she enjoys playing with her cats, Jake and Serenity, and listening to the music of Dolly Parton; and

WHEREAS, By courageously speaking out on urgent legislative issues, Kai Shappley has helped ensure that the voices of transgender youth will not be silenced, and she is a source of inspiration to numerous people in the Lone Star State and beyond; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Kai Shappley for her advocacy in behalf of the transgender youth community in Texas and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success in her important work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Kai Shappley as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.