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By:  White H.R. No. 688

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Barbara Bienvenu of the Jasper Police Department has been named the 2021 Mental Health Peace Officer of the Year by the Texas Crisis Intervention Team Association; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the state, CIT programs help law enforcement officers respond to people who are experiencing mental health crises, and the Texas CIT Association recognizes individuals and organizations that provide important crisis intervention and mental health services to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Known as "Officer BB" to her colleagues, Barbara Bienvenu has worked in law enforcement for more than 14 years, including four years with the Jasper Police Department; a mental health officer, she serves as a liaison between individuals with mental health needs and first responders, medical personnel, school administrators, and state leaders; and

WHEREAS, Officer Bienvenu is also an instructor at Angelina College in Lufkin, as well as a certified hostage negotiator; dedicated to her profession, she is a member of the Texas Association of Hostage Negotiators, the International Association of Hostage Negotiators, and the Texas CIT Association; among her many achievements, she has been recognized by the Woodland Springs mental health center in Conroe; and

WHEREAS, A respected peace officer, Barbara Bienvenu has demonstrated a deep commitment to the safety and well-being of her fellow Texans, and she may indeed take great pride in this prestigious recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Barbara Bienvenu on her selection as the 2021 Mental Health Peace Officer of the Year by the Texas Crisis Intervention Team Association and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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