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By:  Vasut H.R. No. 1278

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Dr. Millicent M. Valek is retiring as president of Brazosport College in January 2022, concluding a distinguished tenure that has spanned more than a quarter century; and

WHEREAS, The longest-serving president in the school's history, Dr. Valek took the helm of Brazosport College in 1996 and she has guided the campus through a period of tremendous growth; campus improvements include the renovation of the library and student resource center as well as the construction of several new facilities, such as The Clarion at Brazosport College, the Dow Academic Center, the BASF Center for Process Technology, the Byron & Sandra Sadler Health Professions/Science Complex, and, most recently, the BCPC Welding Technologies Laboratory; and

WHEREAS, Among her many other accomplishments at Brazosport, Dr. Valek has helped create such initiatives as the Catalyst Program, which builds a pathway to associate degrees, ACE It, which has led to a substantial increase in graduation rates, and JumpStart, which helps meet the demand for skilled craft workers; moreover, during her presidency, the campus has gained legislative authority to offer one of the first baccalaureate degrees at a Texas community college and has twice been ranked among the top 10 community colleges in the U.S. by the Aspen Institute; Brazosport has also earned Leader College of Distinction status; and

WHEREAS, Prior to joining Brazosport, Dr. Valek served as vice president for academic affairs at Arizona Western College and as director of faculty development at Austin Community College; she holds a bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Austin and a master's degree from Texas State University, and she earned a Ph.D. through the Community College Leadership Program at UT Austin, where she received the Distinguished Graduate Award from the College of Education; and

WHEREAS, Through her visionary leadership, Dr. Millicent Valek has played a vital role in advancing the proud legacy of Brazosport College, and her achievements will continue to be appreciated for years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Millicent M. Valek on her retirement as president of Brazosport College 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 Dr. Valek as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.