87R24405 JGH-D

By:  Crockett H.R. No. 1431

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The nonprofit organization Miles of Freedom provides invaluable services to individuals and families in the Dallas area who have been impacted by incarceration; and

WHEREAS, Miles of Freedom was founded by Richard Miles, who spent 15 years in Texas prisons on a wrongful conviction for murder; he was free on bond for two and a half years before he was finally exonerated by the Texas Criminal Court of Appeals in 2012, and during that time, he experienced firsthand the difficulties that a person who has been incarcerated may face in finding a job and a place to live; and

WHEREAS, Miles of Freedom works to offer support and dignity to such individuals in South Dallas through a series of initiatives; the group's three-month Job Readiness Workshop equips participants with training in financial literacy, resume building, interview training, and other life skills, and its graduates are provided with job placement assistance; the Men/Women of Future program mentors young people affected by incarceration, either as inmates or as family members of inmates; and

WHEREAS, This noteworthy organization also offers a shuttle service twice a month to prisons in the Tennessee Colony area for the families of those who are incarcerated, and it provides job opportunities through its lawn care business; and

WHEREAS, Through its unique and compassionate approach to breaking the cycle of incarceration, Miles of Freedom has made a positive and lasting difference in many lives, and the staff and leadership of the organization may take pride in all that they have accomplished; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commend Miles of Freedom on its efforts in behalf of individuals impacted by incarceration and extend to all those associated with the group sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

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