

By: Price

H.R. No. 84

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Ronald McDonald House of Amarillo is celebrating
2 the 40th anniversary of its founding in 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, Recognizing the need for the parents of hospitalized
4 children to stay close during treatment, the first Ronald McDonald
5 House was founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1974; Ronald
6 McDonald House Charities has since established more than 380 Ronald
7 McDonald House programs around the world and provides more than
8 2.2 million overnight stays each year, saving families some
9 \$611 million in lodging and meals; it has further expanded its
10 services through its Family Rooms on site at hospitals as well as
11 its Care Mobile programs, which provide essential medical and
12 dental care to underserved communities; and

13 WHEREAS, An independent, nonprofit charity, the Ronald
14 McDonald House of Amarillo opened its doors in 1983; initially
15 seeking to support families from the Texas Panhandle and
16 surrounding area, the facility has also served families from nearby
17 states, including New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas, and those from
18 as far away as Canada and Australia; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2021, the original building was replaced with a
20 new, state-of-the-art facility, which encompasses 12 guest suites
21 with private bathrooms as well as a communal kitchen, a laundry
22 room, and four play areas; families are welcome to stay for the
23 length of their child's treatment, at no cost to them, and they can
24 rest and recharge at the Ronald McDonald Family Room on the

1 pediatric floor of Northwest Texas Healthcare System; they also
2 receive help transitioning back to normal life when they return
3 home; and

4 WHEREAS, In addition to supporting the families residing at
5 the house, the staff and volunteers of Ronald McDonald House
6 Charities take toys to children at Northwest Texas Healthcare
7 System and BSA Hospital; and

8 WHEREAS, True to its mission, the Ronald McDonald House of
9 Amarillo has made a lasting and positive difference in the lives of
10 countless children and their families, and it is indeed a pleasure
11 to honor the organization on this special milestone in its history;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
14 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commemorate the 40th
15 anniversary of the Ronald McDonald House of Amarillo and extend to
16 all those associated with the organization sincere best wishes for
17 continued success with their important work; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for the Ronald McDonald House of Amarillo as an expression
20 of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.