

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 69

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Valley Association for Independent Living in
2 McAllen received the Martha Arbuckle Award from the Governor's
3 Committee on People with Disabilities at its Lex Frieden Employment
4 Awards ceremony on October 26, 2023; and

5 WHEREAS, Each October, in conjunction with National
6 Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Governor's Committee
7 recognizes Texans who have dedicated themselves to empowering their
8 employees, coworkers, and fellow Texans with disabilities; the
9 awards program is named in tribute to disability rights expert Lex
10 Frieden, one of the chief architects of the Americans with
11 Disabilities Act; and

12 WHEREAS, The Martha Arbuckle Award recognizes an innovative
13 local community project and is presented in memory of Martha
14 Arbuckle, who was a longtime disability advocate in Austin; and

15 WHEREAS, The Valley Association for Independent Living
16 fosters job opportunities for individuals with disabilities by
17 collaborating with service providers, educational institutions,
18 commercial businesses, and supportive organizations; managed and
19 staffed by individuals with disabilities, VAIL helps its clients
20 identify career opportunities, participate in job fairs, earn
21 certifications, access assistive technology, and work toward
22 permanent employment; and

23 WHEREAS, Through its outstanding contributions, VAIL has
24 advanced the mission of building an inclusive, accessible work

1 environment for Texans with disabilities, and it is richly
2 deserving of this prestigious accolade; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
4 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby congratulate the Valley
5 Association for Independent Living on receiving the 2023 Martha
6 Arbuckle Award from the Governor's Committee on People with
7 Disabilities Lex Frieden Employment Awards program and extend to
8 all those associated with the organization sincere best wishes for
9 continued success; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for VAIL as an expression of high regard by the Texas House
12 of Representatives.