WHEREAS volunteers can have an enormous impact on the well-being and overall success of children in Texas public schools; and

WHEREAS the State Board of Education recognizes that public school volunteers can act in many capacities including as tutor, teacher, mentor, coach, and in everything from helping with homework to dealing with personal crises; and

WHEREAS Javier Hernandez has been tutoring students for 40 years, starting with his high school classmates in 1974 to today, at the Hays Elementary, San Jacinto Elementary, and New Tech Odessa schools in the Ector County ISD; and

WHEREAS Lorena Cuellar has, for the past 17 years, been an advocate for parents of learning disabled students in the Weslaco ISD, promoting the understanding that their children have opportunities beyond high school; and

WHEREAS Dave Gannon’s work with the Northside Education Foundation as a mentor and board member has improved the lives of thousands of San Antonio area teachers and children; and

WHEREAS when most people are settling down and enjoying retirement, Eugene Jones shifted into second gear and rolled up his sleeves to give back to a generation of Houston ISD students that need his wisdom and guidance; and

WHEREAS Lois White gave up her retirement to work with the students at the LBJ Early College High School in the Austin ISD helping to prepare them to be successful and respectful adults; and

WHEREAS Karri Parlevliet serves as vice president over volunteers and special events for the Keith Elementary School PTO board in the Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, and as homeroom mom, tutor, library assistant, fund-raiser, and more; and

WHEREAS Carol Scott does whatever it takes to achieve what she needs for the students of the Fort Bend ISD – from research to bargaining to just wearing someone down – so long as it makes the lives of the students better; and

WHEREAS at 74 years of age, Herbert Gordon gives his time wherever he can to the Humble ISD and continues to “pay it forward” to ensure that the schools and community continue to be a great place to live, work, study, and play; and

WHEREAS Guessippini Bonner works tirelessly helping the most severe at-risk youth and low-income families in the Lufkin ISD involving them in the fine arts as a way to enhance achievement; and

WHEREAS Gustavo Perez is an active member of the Dual Language Parent Advisory Committee in the Leander ISD working tirelessly to improve the outreach and support the committee provides to parents; and

WHEREAS Nicole Frieder has been a valuable member of the School Health Advisory Committee for the Coppell ISD ensuring that decisions made have a truly positive impact on the health of all the children in the district; and

WHEREAS the Anna ISD feels blessed to have the expertise and commitment to volunteering that Relda Beall provides to the schools each week through her passion and determination to help students learn to read; and

WHEREAS Michael Johnston is a strong and passionate supporter of the Fort Worth ISD and believes there really is an American dream where children can achieve goals that are seemingly impossible to reach; and

WHEREAS Shauna Ramos, a volunteer at The Academy at Nola Dunn in the Burleson ISD, has a true positive impact on student learning because of her genuine investment in the education, inspiration, character, and value of each child; and

WHEREAS Dyron Howell started the Snack Pak 4 Kids program in the Amarillo ISD, ensuring that students go home on Fridays with backpacks full of nutritious, healthy snacks to keep them from going hungry over the weekends; and

WHEREAS all these Texans’ efforts have benefited the children of our state and contributed to the success of the Texas public education system; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education recognizes these outstanding individuals as Heroes for Children; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to each of the recipients and that a copy be included in the permanent records of the State Board of Education.

WITNESS our signatures this nineteenth day of September, two thousand fourteen, in Austin, Texas.

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Barbara Cargill, Chair

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Mavis B. Knight, Secretary