



# The State of Texas House of Representatives

H.C.R. No. 4

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Direct support professionals are the primary providers of publicly funded long-term support services for millions of individuals with physical and mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, These highly trained caregivers build close, trusted relationships with the people they serve, who rely on them for assistance with their most intimate needs; their responsibilities include helping clients to negotiate a broad range of daily tasks, such as eating, bathing, dressing, taking medications, overcoming mobility issues, and attending school, work, religious, and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, The essential care provided by direct support professionals enables persons with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives while remaining connected to their families and communities; for many, they offer a practical alternative to more costly institutional services; and

WHEREAS, A majority of direct support professionals are women, and many are the sole wage earners in their families; despite working and paying taxes, a significant number of them are eligible for the same federal and state public assistance on which their clients depend; and

WHEREAS, Because of inadequate income and benefits, direct support professionals are often forced to leave jobs, leading to a shortage of workers that persists throughout the state; although the demand for caregivers employed in homes and community-based settings is continuing to grow, high turnover and vacancy rates threaten to adversely affect the quality of support that individuals with disabilities receive; and

WHEREAS, Direct support professionals enhance the lives of thousands of Texans while performing a vital service to their families, for whom day-to-day care may pose a challenge beyond their capabilities; by observing Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week, the State of Texas joins with communities across the nation in extending profound thanks to those who accept this demanding yet rewarding role, for their contributions are indispensable to countless of their fellow citizens; now, therefore, be it

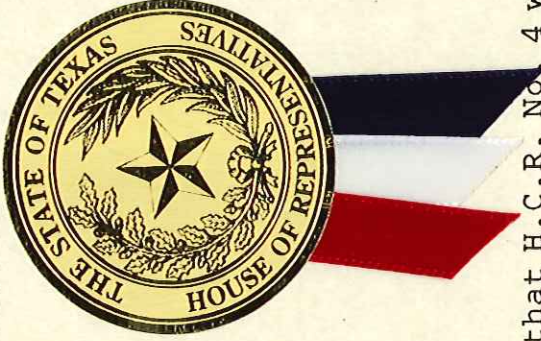
RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas, 2nd Called Session, hereby designate the week beginning September 8, 2013, as Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week and honor direct support professionals as an integral part of the long-term care system of Texas.

David Dewhurst

President of the Senate

Joe Straus  
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 4 was adopted by the House on July 10, 2013, by a non-record vote.



Robert Starnes  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 4 was adopted by the Senate on July 12, 2013, by a viva-voce vote.

Lately Shaw  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: Rick Perry  
Governor

Ryan Guillen  
Ryan Guillen  
State Representative  
District 31