WHEREAS, John McDivitt of Houston is retiring from the American Red Cross on June 7, 2004, completing a distinguished 38-year tenure with that esteemed organization; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDivitt began his career with the Red Cross in Iowa in 1966 as a safety program representative in the Midwestern Area; for the past 20 years he has served as chief executive officer of the Greater Houston Chapter of the American Red Cross, and during his two-decade tenure the chapter has doubled in size and expanded from six to 14 branches; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Southwest Oklahoma State College, this civic-minded individual has previously officiated as executive director of the Rochester-Monroe County Chapter in New York and as manager of the Central Illinois Chapter in Peoria; he has also been affiliated with chapters in Missouri, Wisconsin, and Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McDivitt has aided thousands of American families during his illustrious career, providing food, shelter, and other necessities in the aftermath of an array of natural disasters, including Tropical Storm Allison; following the tragedies of September 11, 2001, he devoted six months to working at the American Red Cross National Headquarters, devising disaster response and preparedness strategies in his role as executive vice president of disaster; and

WHEREAS, This commendable gentleman has lent his time and talents to a host of other worthwhile endeavors, including the ARC
Retirement System, the Texas Gulf Coast United Way, the Rotary Club of Houston, and Associated Catholic Charities; he and his wife, Mary, enjoy a loving family that includes three children and six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Whether raising much-needed funds, training an army of volunteers, or providing care and assistance to those in need, John McDivitt has had a profound impact on the lives of countless individuals; he is a man of extraordinary dedication and commitment, and his legacy as a visionary leader of the American Red Cross will not soon be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas, 4th Called Session, hereby honor John McDivitt on the occasion of his retirement from the American Red Cross and extend to him warmest best wishes for continued success and happiness as he begins the next chapter of his life; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. McDivitt as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Nixon
I certify that H.C.R. No. 4 was adopted by the House on May 11, 2004, by a non-record vote.

I certify that H.C.R. No. 4 was adopted by the Senate on May 14, 2004.

APPROVED, Date

7 JUN '04
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
JUN 7 2004
Secretary of State