

By: Pitts

H.R. No. 773

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Jerry Madden, state representative of
2 House District 67, has been selected by *Governing* magazine as a 2010
3 Public Official of the Year; and

4 WHEREAS, This national accolade annually recognizes
5 individuals who have had a notable positive impact on the people
6 they serve and is considered the preeminent honor for state and
7 local government officials; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Madden was chosen for the award along
9 with Senator John Whitmire for their efforts to reform the Texas
10 criminal justice system; after being appointed chair of the House
11 Committee on Corrections in 2005, Representative Madden began to
12 analyze related facts and statistics and to collaborate with
13 Senator Whitmire to seek ways of preventing an increase in the
14 prison population while also safeguarding the public and
15 effectively rehabilitating offenders; and

16 WHEREAS, Recognizing that it costs less to intervene early
17 when dealing with offenders who have mental health or addiction
18 problems, the two legislators crafted a plan in which more
19 resources were directed to mental health and substance abuse
20 programs already in existence in the community, with the result not
21 only that the total prison population decreased, but also that
22 recidivism declined substantially; and

23 WHEREAS, Innovative and effective leadership is
24 characteristic of this West Point-trained engineer, who was first

1 elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1992 and is
2 currently serving his 10th term in office; and

3 WHEREAS, Through his forward-thinking approach to changing
4 the way low-risk offenders were treated in the prison and probation
5 systems, he eliminated the need to build more facilities and
6 changed many lives for the better along the way, and his work has
7 helped to make Texas a nationwide model for corrections reform;
8 now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
10 Legislature hereby congratulate Representative Jerry Madden on
11 being named a 2010 Public Official of the Year by *Governing* magazine
12 and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be
13 it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Representative Madden as an expression of high regard
16 by his colleagues in the Texas House of Representatives.