

By: Kacal

H.R. No. 911

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Christopher L. Williston, CAE, retired as president
2 and chief executive officer of the Independent Bankers Association
3 of Texas (IBAT) on December 31, 2018, after 30 years of leading the
4 association and advocating on behalf of independent community banks
5 throughout the state; and

6 WHEREAS, IBAT has benefited greatly from Mr. Williston's
7 passion for and dedication to the community banking industry; under
8 his guidance, it has grown to become the largest state association
9 of its kind in the country, representing more than 2,000 banks and
10 branches in cities and towns of all sizes; over the years, he has
11 worked tirelessly to ensure that Texas bankers' voices are heard
12 and that their interests are effectively represented, and the many
13 highlights of his tenure have included championing regulatory
14 relief efforts that will have a notable impact on the success and
15 viability of community banks; and

16 WHEREAS, An alumnus of Texas Tech University, Mr. Williston
17 received his Certified Association Executive designation at the age
18 of 26, becoming one of the youngest recipients in the nation;
19 throughout his career, he has served on a host of boards and
20 councils, including those of the Independent Community Bankers of
21 America, the Texas Society of Association Executives, and the
22 Southwestern Graduate School of Banking; he has further contributed
23 to his peers through his work as a sought-after speaker on
24 association management, as a community banking consultant, as a

1 facilitator of strategic planning sessions for other associations,
2 and as the author of the widely acclaimed *The Association*
3 *Executives Little Black Book*; and

4 WHEREAS, Christopher Williston's leadership, determination,
5 and vision have helped position the Texas community banking
6 industry well for the future, and he has earned the lasting respect
7 and gratitude of the countless fellow Texans who have come to know
8 him as a colleague, mentor, and friend; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
10 Legislature hereby commend Christopher L. Williston, CAE, for his
11 years of service as president and CEO of the Independent Bankers
12 Association of Texas and extend to him sincere best wishes for
13 continued success and happiness; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Mr. Williston as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives.