

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas takes great pride in extending sincere congratulations to Senator John Whitmire, Dean of the Texas Senate and one of its most respected members, on his 40 years of outstanding service in the Texas Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, Among our state's longest-serving legislators, Senator Whitmire began his career in public service when he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1972; he served in the House for 10 years, from the 63rd Legislature through the 67th Legislature; he was elected Democratic state senator for District 15 in 1982 and began serving in the 68th Legislative Session; he has served in 16 Senate legislatures, and as of January of this year, he has been a Texas state senator for 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Over the course of his exceptional career, Senator Whitmire has worked with 369 legislators; he is one of the six longest-serving lawmakers in Texas history, and by the end of the 83rd Legislature, he will be tied for having the third-longest legislative tenure; and

**WHEREAS**, A legendary political figure, Senator Whitmire has served his state with distinction under seven governors, six lieutenant governors, and six speakers of the House; as both a representative and a senator, he has worked tirelessly on behalf of his state, and as Dean of the Senate, he has provided steadfast leadership and guidance and has been a role model in upholding legislative standards and decorum; and

**WHEREAS**, Well known for his many accomplishments as chair of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee, Senator Whitmire has worked hard to bring about needed changes to the adult and juvenile criminal justice systems and has stressed the need to be tough, but smart, on crime; he is noted for spearheading reform in the treatment and rehabilitation of offenders, making Texas a national example for criminal justice reform; he was named one of *Governing Magazine's* 2010 Public Officials of the Year; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Whitmire also serves on the Senate Government Organization Committee and the Senate Administration and Senate Finance Committees; in addition to his legislative service, he is a member of the Pension Review Board, which oversees all public retirement systems in Texas, and of the Texas Sunset Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, A native of Hillsboro and a longtime Houston resident, Senator Whitmire is the proud father of two daughters, Whitney and Sarah, and has delighted in watching them grow up to become beautiful, intelligent young women and treasured members of the Senate family; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Whitmire was admitted to the Texas State Bar in 1981 and is an attorney of counsel to the law firm of Locke Lord Bissell and Liddell; he was named one of *Texas Monthly's* Best Texas Legislators in 1993, 2003, 2005, and 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, An insightful and highly effective lawmaker, Senator Whitmire is respected for both his forthrightness and his political expertise; during his 40-year legislative career, his many accomplishments have earned him widespread admiration

throughout the state and the enduring esteem of his colleagues;  
now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd  
Legislature, hereby pay tribute to Senator John Whitmire for his  
40 years of legislative service and honor him for his innumerable  
contributions and boundless dedication to our state; and, be it  
further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for  
Senator John Whitmire as an expression of highest esteem from the  
Texas Senate.

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Birdwell	Hegar	Schwertner
Campbell	Hinojosa	Seliger
Carona	Huffman	Taylor
Davis	Lucio	Uresti
Deuell	Nelson	Van de Putte
Duncan	Nichols	Watson
Ellis	Patrick	West
Estes	Paxton	Whitmire
Fraser	Rodriguez	Williams
Hancock		Zaffirini

Dewhurst, President of the Senate

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the  
above Resolution was adopted by  
the Senate on January 14, 2013.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate