



COMMISSIONER
Jon Weizenbaum

September 6, 2013

To: Nursing Facilities
Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability

Subject: Information Letter No. 13-60
Notice of Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week

House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) No. 4 (83rd Texas Legislature, Second Called Session, 2013) designates the week beginning September 8, 2013, as Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week.

Direct support professionals help individuals with physical and mental disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives. They build close relationships with the people they serve, who rely on them for assistance with tasks such as eating, bathing, dressing, taking medications, overcoming mobility issues, and attending school, work, religious, and recreational activities. Research has shown that recognition activities can positively affect the recruitment and retention of members of this workforce.

HCR No. 4 can be found at: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/832/billtext/pdf/HC00004F.pdf>, and says in part:

“...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...”

Direct support professionals enhance the lives of tens of thousands of Texans. Please join the Department of Aging and Disability Services in observing Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week and honoring these workers' vital contributions to the people of our state.

Sincerely,

[Signature on file]

Jon Weizenbaum