

**D.**      Celebratory Resolution - Honoring the Significant Academic and Advocacy Accomplishments of Hana Taylor Schlitz (Commissioner Simmons)

## **CELEBRATORY RESOLUTION**

*Honoring the significant academic and advocacy accomplishments of Hana Taylor Schlitz*

***Whereas,** Hana Taylor Schlitz, became the youngest graduate of Texas Woman's University on May 10, 2024, when she earned a Bachelor's degree in Sociology at the age of 16 years, three months; and*

***Whereas,** Hana followed the academic path of her older sister, Haley Taylor Schlitz, who graduated in 2019, also from Texas Woman's University, at age 16 years, nine months; and*

***Whereas,** Hana's early life began with significant challenges when her biological mother succumbed to tuberculosis shortly after Hana was born in a remote village in Ethiopia; and Hana, herself, was diagnosed with TB, a bacterial infection of the lungs that, if left untreated, can cause death; and*

***Whereas,** Hana's parents William Schlitz and Dr. Myeisha Taylor adopted her and later moved to Keller, Texas, where she underwent months of treatments at Tarrant County Public Health's Tuberculosis Elimination Clinic; and*

***Whereas, because of Hana's experiences with** Tarrant County's public health services, she now vocally advocates for public health infrastructure in the United States, most recently by writing an opinion in the April 25, 2024 edition of Newsweek magazine in which she writes "My recovery from tuberculosis was not just a testament to medical science but also to the strength of the public health infrastructure in the United States that supported my treatment," a stark contrast to the fate of her biological mother in Ethiopia.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we, the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County, do hereby recognize Hana Taylor Schlitz, on her historic and trailblazing graduation from Texas Woman's University, her overcoming a childhood diagnosis of tuberculosis, her important health advocacy work to educate citizens globally about the devastating effects of tuberculosis and her work to eliminate this disease in developing countries around the world.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** we have here unto have set our hands and caused the Seal of Tarrant County to be affixed this 21st day of May 2024*