

By: Smithee

H.R. No. 2540

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Walter V. Wendler has greatly benefited West
2 Texas A&M University through his accomplishments as president; and

3 WHEREAS, Appointed in 2016, Dr. Wendler has overseen the
4 expansion of programs and facilities across the university; he has
5 focused extensively on educating students about how to minimize
6 student loan debt, and he has launched initiatives to increase
7 transparency and knowledge regarding college costs; when he began
8 his tenure at WT, he made a point of personally visiting every high
9 school in the 26 Panhandle counties to raise awareness of the
10 advantages the university could give them; he writes extensively
11 and maintains a blog called "Reflections from WT"; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Wendler brought to his position a wealth of
13 experience in higher education, both in the classroom and in
14 administrative roles; he began his academic career as an assistant
15 professor in the Department of Architecture at Louisiana State
16 University, and in 1988, he became executive associate dean in the
17 Texas A&M University College of Architecture; named head of the
18 Department of Architecture the following year, he later served as
19 dean of the College of Architecture; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1997, Dr. Wendler became executive assistant to
21 the president of Texas A&M; he then served for two years as vice
22 chancellor for planning, and he was also the inaugural holder of the
23 William M. Peña Professorship of Information Management in the
24 College of Architecture; appointed chancellor of Southern Illinois

1 University Carbondale in 2001, he completed his contract six years
2 later and returned to teaching architecture; and

3 WHEREAS, Raised in Northport, New York, Dr. Wendler holds an
4 associate's degree in applied science from the State University of
5 New York at Farmingdale, a bachelor's degree in environmental
6 design from Texas A&M University, a professional master of
7 architecture degree from the University of California, Berkeley,
8 and a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from The University
9 of Texas; a member of a number of honorary societies, he is a
10 retired registered architect and holds the National Council of
11 Architectural Registration Board's certificate; and

12 WHEREAS, Through his exceptional contributions as president
13 of West Texas A&M University, Walter Wendler has earned the
14 admiration and appreciation of people across the Panhandle; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
17 Legislature hereby honor Dr. Walter V. Wendler for his service as
18 president of West Texas A&M University and extend to him sincere
19 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Dr. Wendler as an expression of high regard by the
22 Texas House of Representatives.