

By: Rose

H.R. No. 156

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Matt Standridge of San Marcos has joined the elite
2 ranks of those who have met the challenges of Mount Everest, and for
3 his notable accomplishment he is truly deserving of special
4 recognition; and

5 WHEREAS, Paralyzed from the waist down since a 1997
6 motorcycle accident, the former Houstonian was invited to
7 participate in the Team Everest '03 expedition to Nepal; the trip
8 was organized by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities to help
9 change the public's perception of the capabilities of individuals
10 with disabilities; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Standridge raised more than \$6,000 for his share
12 of expenses before embarking on a training regimen of an improved
13 diet and regular workouts at a local facility, followed by an hour
14 or two each night pushing his wheelchair throughout the hilly
15 Southwest Texas State University campus; he left Austin on March
16 15, 2003, arriving in Kathmandu, Nepal, two days later and at Lukla
17 on March 19; his 30-mile journey from Lukla to the Mount Everest
18 base camp at 17,500 feet took three weeks of painstaking effort on a
19 primitive trail and has refocused the life of the 24-year-old; and

20 WHEREAS, He lives independently with his English bulldog,
21 Tyson, and is employed in management with the San Marcos Wal-Mart
22 Super Store; Mr. Standridge earned his GED and plans to pursue a
23 degree at Southwest Texas State University to become a high school
24 teacher, and his remarkable experience in the Himalayas has sparked

1 his enthusiasm about the future; and

2 WHEREAS, Matt Standridge has demonstrated the virtues of
3 determination, strength, and perseverance, and it is indeed a
4 pleasure to join in honoring this impressive young Texan at this
5 time; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
7 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate Matt
8 Standridge for successfully reaching the Mount Everest base camp
9 and extend to him sincere best wishes for happiness and fulfillment
10 in the years to come; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Mr. Standridge as an expression of high regard by the
13 Texas House of Representatives.