

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 602**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Talferd and Ella Collins Farm, which has been honored by the Family Land Heritage Program for 100 years of continuous agricultural production by the same family; and

**WHEREAS**, The Talferd and Ella Collins Farm was established by Donnie and Dee Gabriel Collins in 1891, when they purchased 330 acres in Travis County that were originally part of the Santiago Del Valle grant from Mexico; the farm is located five miles southeast of Austin on the Dee Gabriel Collins Road; and

**WHEREAS**, Donnie and Dee added 87 acres to their property and raised cattle, horses, cotton, corn, hay, chickens, and turkeys; the family donated land for a church and a schoolhouse and hired a teacher and a preacher; and

**WHEREAS**, Donnie and Dee had a large family of 18 children and managed the farm until 1934, when Walter Collins, one of their children, took over the bulk of the farmwork; he and his wife, Cecicia, added an additional 100 acres to the farm and modernized it with an electric pump for the well and new buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1942, Ella and Talferd Gabriel Collins, grandson of the founder, took over the management of the farm; Talferd lived on the farm his entire life and served with Travis County law enforcement for 24 years; Ella ran the farm on a day-to-day basis, and following Talferd's death in 1997, she has continued to operate the farm with her children; and

**WHEREAS**, The members of the Collins family have put their farm to effective and productive use for a century; each generation of the Collins family has been taught to respect, love, and treasure the land and their heritage, and they expect the farm to remain in the family for generations to come; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize the Talferd and Ella Collins Farm as a treasure of Travis County and the State of Texas; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the Collins family as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Barrientos

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 10, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate