

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 137

WHEREAS, Don and Sidney Faust of Houston have enriched the lives of countless young Texans by generously opening their hearts and home to children with cancer; and

WHEREAS, Since 1998, the Fausts have invited patients from the Texas Children's Cancer Center for weekend retreats at Squirrel Creek Ranch, the couple's cattle ranch in South Texas near Hondo; recognizing that cancer affects the entire family, the Fausts welcome the patients' parents and siblings as well, and this unique facility is thought to be the only cancer retreat in Texas that hosts entire families; and

WHEREAS, The idea for the retreats originated when a group of sick children presented the Fausts with a philanthropy award from the Cancer League of Houston; until then, Mr. and Mrs. Faust had been generous with their financial contributions but seeing the children moved this compassionate couple to do more; since then, they have hosted 19 retreats, constructed a wing of bedrooms for their guests, and are now drawing up plans for a recreation room complete with a wall-sized movie screen; and

WHEREAS, Squirrel Creek guests are allowed to wander the grounds of this working cattle ranch and choose from a variety of activities, which include horseback riding, swimming, fishing, and tennis; the children take special delight in scenic drives, which offer them the opportunity to see the many unusual animals that live on the ranch, including camels, kangaroos, zebras, African exotics, buffaloes, miniature horses, llamas, elk, and numerous types of deer; and

WHEREAS, The founder of Faust Distributing Company, a thriving \$90 million family-owned beer distributorship serving the Houston area, Mr. Faust has expressed gratitude for the success he has achieved and a conviction to share his good fortune with others; he and his wife support numerous civic organizations and charities, including the Houston Symphony, the Houston Ballet, the Baylor Research Advocates for Student Scientists, the March of Dimes, and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, but they justifiably take special pride in the cancer retreats they host; and

WHEREAS, Those individuals who step forward to share their time and their resources with others are indeed deserving of our profound admiration and gratitude, and it is truly a pleasure to honor Don and Sidney Faust for the happy and carefree days they have made possible for many deserving young Texans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Don and

S.R. No. 137

Sidney Faust for their extraordinary philanthropic endeavors at Squirrel Creek Ranch; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mr. and Mrs. Faust as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Janek, Madla

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 20, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate