WHEREAS, The history of the Lone Star State has been richly influenced by family farming and ranching, and the Mahoney and McDonald families of Atascosa County have now been officially acknowledged as heirs to this proud tradition with the acceptance of the Mahoney-McDonald Ranch into the Texas Family Land Heritage Program; and

WHEREAS, The Family Land Heritage Program recognizes farms and ranches that have been in continuous agricultural operation by the same family for a century or more, and in reaching this remarkable milestone, the Mahoney-McDonald Ranch has secured its stature in Texas ranching history; and

WHEREAS, Purchased by Theodore Washington "T. W." Oden and his stepfather, J. W. Murphy, in 1882, the original 12,000-acre property was used to raise cattle on the open rangelands; and

WHEREAS, Over the ensuing years, the ranch was passed down through generations of Mr. Oden's descendents, from his daughter, Ella Mahoney, to his grandchildren, including John Theodore Mahoney, who owns the land today; Mr. Mahoney, his wife, Jo Ann, their daughter, Marci, and her sons, Jasper McDonald and Michael Parker McDonald, continue the family tradition by raising cattle; and

WHEREAS, The rewarding but challenging work of running a sustainable agricultural operation is not only a valuable service to the community but also a vital link to the rich and colorful
history that has made the Lone Star State what it is today, and the Mahoney and McDonald families continue to contribute immeasurably to this fine tradition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby congratulate the Mahoney and McDonald families on the acceptance of the Mahoney-McDonald Ranch into the Texas Family Land Heritage Program and extend them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the families as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

