

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 92

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The history of the Lone Star State has been richly  
2 influenced by family farming and ranching, and Linda Turner McKay  
3 and Jean Turner Culli of Beeville have now been officially  
4 recognized as heirs to this proud tradition with the acceptance of  
5 Oakland Stock Farm into the Texas Family Land Heritage Program; and

6           WHEREAS, The Family Land Heritage Program recognizes farms  
7 and ranches that have been in continuous agricultural operation by  
8 the same family for a century or more, and in reaching this  
9 remarkable milestone, Oakland Stock Farm has secured its stature in  
10 Texas ranching history; and

11           WHEREAS, The great-grandparents of Ms. McKay and Ms. Culli,  
12 George and Mary Virginia Hufstedler, purchased more than 1,200  
13 acres of land in Bee County on June 14, 1901, and developed an  
14 extensive agricultural operation, raising cattle, goats, mules,  
15 pigs, chickens, bees, and vegetables; in 1904, they added acreage,  
16 and when their daughter, Malinda, and her husband, Cawthon  
17 Gillette, acquired the farm some years later, they purchased 1,368  
18 acres; and

19           WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Gillette carried on the tradition of  
20 working, living, and raising their family on the land, and passed  
21 the land down to their daughters, Aline and Virginia, in 1944; 26  
22 years later, Linda McKay and Jean Culli inherited the land once  
23 owned by their great-grandparents; and

24           WHEREAS, Though the McKay and Culli families do not live on

1 the farm, they play an active role in its maintenance, and a  
2 century-old home, built by the founders, remains a popular and  
3 beloved site for family gatherings; recent improvements to the  
4 property include installing earth tanks, water wells, and fencing,  
5 and today the family raises livestock, hay, and honey on the  
6 property; and

7 WHEREAS, In taking on the rewarding but challenging work of  
8 preserving a farm, Linda McKay and Jean Culli are providing a  
9 valuable service to their community and contributing immeasurably  
10 to the rich heritage of their fellow Texans; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
12 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby congratulate Linda Turner  
13 McKay and Jean Turner Culli on the acceptance of Oakland Stock Farm  
14 into the Texas Family Land Heritage Program and extend to them  
15 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for Ms. McKay and Ms. Culli as an expression of high regard  
18 by the Texas House of Representatives.