

By: Eiland

H.R. No. 657

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Seaborne Challenge Corps  
2 has encouraged young Texans to attain their very highest potential  
3 both in school and in life; and

4           WHEREAS, An initiative of Texas A&M University at Galveston,  
5 the Seaborne Challenge Corps is operated by the Texas National  
6 Guard with funding from the federal government, the State of Texas,  
7 and private foundations; and

8           WHEREAS, This vital program addresses the economic and social  
9 problems that result when students drop out of school; now in its  
10 10th year, the Seaborne Challenge Corps provides education,  
11 training, and career development for at-risk youth; and

12           WHEREAS, 300 young Texans, male and female, ages 16 to 18, are  
13 annually accepted into the program; participants who complete a  
14 rigorous two-week pre-challenge phase go on to take part in a  
15 22-week residential phase; four days each week are focused on  
16 academic studies, two days are dedicated to community service, and  
17 the remaining day is reserved for incentive events and voluntary  
18 attendance at Galveston area houses of worship; and

19           WHEREAS, Students contribute to the vitality of their  
20 communities and learn valuable skills while lending their time to  
21 local entities, including The University of Texas Medical Center,  
22 the county courthouse, the American Red Cross, the County Senior  
23 Citizens Center, and an after school tutoring program; and

24           WHEREAS, After graduation, participants continue with a

1 one-year post-residential phase; teamed with a trained mentor, they  
2 are offered support and guidance as they become established in new  
3 jobs, military service, or an institution of higher learning; and

4 WHEREAS, By developing the potential of Texas youth and  
5 encouraging involvement in the community, the Seaborne Challenge  
6 Corps is making a positive contribution not only in the lives of its  
7 participants but also to the future of this state and nation; now,  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
10 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to all Seaborne  
11 Challenge Corps graduates, current participants, and staff, as well  
12 as to the Adjutant General's Department and all past and present  
13 mentors; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for the Seaborne Challenge Corps as an expression of high  
16 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.