

By: Keel

H.R. No. 1059

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Architect Robert Jackson of Austin received a
2 prestigious honor when his design of the Warren Skaaren
3 Environmental Learning Center (ELC) at Westcave Preserve received
4 the Award of Excellence at the National American Institute of
5 Architects/Committee on Architecture for Education Conference in
6 Washington, D.C., on February 9, 2005; and

7 WHEREAS, Awarded by an established group of architects,
8 professionals, and educators concerned with the design of
9 educational facilities, the award considers three criteria in its
10 selection: a design's integration of form and function, its
11 enhancement of the client's educational program, and its
12 collaborative and educational support of the school community and
13 its students; and

14 WHEREAS, Owned by the Lower Colorado River Authority and
15 operated by the nonprofit Westcave Preserve Corporation, the ELC is
16 a learning center located in western Travis County at the Westcave
17 Preserve, which hosts public programs and sponsors integrated
18 exhibits demonstrating the relationships between living things and
19 their environments; and

20 WHEREAS, The 30-acre natural preserve is a unique
21 geographical environment and home to a number of plant and animal
22 species, including the endangered golden-cheeked warbler; to
23 respect this delicate habitat, Mr. Jackson created a facility using
24 sustainable materials, including recycled steel, rainwater

1 collection, and a concrete floor made of recycled power plant
2 fly-ash content; the 3,000-square-foot building serves as a
3 visitors center, a classroom facility, and a gateway to the nature
4 preserve; and

5 WHEREAS, Founded in 1975, Mr. Jackson's firm, Robert Jackson
6 Architects, has received numerous awards from the Texas Society of
7 Architects, the American Institute of Architects, and the Austin
8 Heritage Society, and has designed residences and educational,
9 governmental, recreational, commercial, and health care
10 facilities; and

11 WHEREAS, Shaping our environment while respecting existing,
12 natural surroundings requires an acute sensitivity to the way
13 living systems thrive, and Robert Jackson clearly understands this
14 responsibility; his design respects the client's needs and
15 maintains a happy relationship between the natural and man-made
16 worlds, and it is a pleasure to join his peers in recognizing his
17 extraordinary work; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate Robert Jackson for his
20 award-winning design of the Warren Skaaren Environmental Learning
21 Center at Westcave Preserve and extend to him sincere best wishes
22 for continued professional success and achievement; and, be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for Mr. Jackson as an expression of high regard by the
26 Texas House of Representatives.