

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Architects Robert Jackson and Michael McElhaney of
2 Austin received a prestigious honor when their design of the Warren
3 Skaaren Environmental Learning Center (ELC) at Westcave Preserve
4 received the Award of Excellence at the National American Institute
5 of Architects/Committee on Architecture for Education Conference
6 in 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, the award-winning design team
24 created a facility using sustainable materials, including recycled

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

5 WHEREAS, Shaping our environment while respecting existing,
6 natural surroundings requires an acute sensitivity to the way
7 living systems thrive; Mr. Jackson's and Mr. McElhaney's design
8 respects the client's needs and maintains a happy relationship
9 between the natural and man-made worlds, and it is a pleasure to
10 join their peers in recognizing this extraordinary work; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
13 Legislature hereby congratulate Jackson & McElhaney Architects for
14 the award-winning design of the Warren Skaaren Environmental
15 Learning Center at Westcave Preserve and extend to these talented
16 architects sincere best wishes for continued professional success
17 and achievement; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Mr. Jackson and Mr. McElhaney as an expression of high
20 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Keel

H.R. No. 1553

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1553 was adopted by the House on May 20, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House