R E S O L U T I O N

1   WHEREAS, Four middle school students from Sugar Land
2   represented the Lone Star State at the National MATHCOUNTS
3   competition in Detroit on May 6, 2005, and became the first Texas
4   team in the 22-year history of the program to win first place; and
5   WHEREAS, Team member Mark Zhang, an eighth-grader from Fort
6   Settlement Middle School, further distinguished himself by winning
7   second place in the individual category among more than 20,000
8   competitors from across the country; a participant in last year's
9   contest as well, this gifted young man had achieved a perfect score
10   on the written exam and placed first in the individual rounds at the
11   state competition before progressing to the national event; and
12   WHEREAS, The other talented members of the Texas team are
13   Jeffrey Chan, a seventh-grader at Fort Settlement Middle School who
14   ranked third at the state competition and scored a perfect 800 on
15   the math portion of the 2005 SAT, Kevin Chen from First Colony
16   Middle School, the first sixth-grader in Texas MATHCOUNTS history
17   to make it to nationals and the second-place winner at the state
18   event, and Dennis Mou, a Fort Settlement eighth-grader and
19   accomplished violinist who garnered the only perfect score in Texas
20   on the AMC-10 competition; and
21   WHEREAS, These exceptional young "mathletes" from the Fort
22   Bend Independent School District have benefited from the guidance
23   of their coach, Jeff Boyd, who has been coaching MATHCOUNTS teams at
24   three different schools over the past 13 years; he and his team have

1 been invited to visit the White House and meet with President George

2 W. Bush in honor of their academic achievements; and

3 WHEREAS, MATHCOUNTS is a prestigious annual national

4 competition that promotes math excellence for sixth-, seventh-, and

5 eighth-grade students and brings together youth, educators,

6 industry sponsors, and volunteers to ensure that students develop

7 the mathematical skills needed for their future; more than 2,000

8 students from across the state participate each year in the Texas

9 MATHCOUNTS program, which is sponsored by the Texas Society of

10 Professional Engineers, and since the national program's inception

11 in 1983, more than six million students from around the country have

12 participated; and

13 WHEREAS, The members of the 2005 Texas MATHCOUNTS team have

14 brought tremendous pride not only to their families, their schools,

15 and their community, but also to the State of Texas, and it is

16 indeed appropriate to join in commending these remarkable young men

17 on their national championship; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas

19 Legislature hereby congratulate Mark Zhang, Jeffrey Chan, Kevin

20 Chen, Dennis Mou, and Coach Jeff Boyd for their outstanding success

21 at the 2005 National MATHCOUNTS competition and extend to them

22 sincere best wishes for continued achievement; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

24 prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas

25 House of Representatives.