

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 1839

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The first graduation ceremony for Ed Brune Charter
2 School is taking place on May 24, 2005, providing a most welcome
3 opportunity to recognize the school's graduating seniors and the
4 Hill Country Youth Ranch; and

5 WHEREAS, The Ed Brune School and the Big Springs Ranch for
6 Children are part of the legacy of the late Oma Bell Perry and her
7 family, who settled the Upper Frio Canyon north of Leakey in 1930;
8 the great-grandniece of Stephen F. Austin, Ms. Perry envisioned a
9 place of healing for children in need to live alongside older,
10 retired citizens, fostering a grandparent-type relationship and a
11 reconnection between generations; and

12 WHEREAS, Ms. Perry deeded her beloved 7,000-acre ranch to the
13 Hill Country Youth Ranch in 1996, and three years later, the
14 intergenerational village, with grandparents' cottages adjoining
15 each children's homestead, welcomed its first young residents; the
16 Ed Brune Charter School opened in the fall of 2001; perched on the
17 banks of the Frio River in the "country of 1,100 springs," the
18 school offers a beautiful and tranquil setting for the 65 students,
19 grades six through 12, who are currently enrolled there; and

20 WHEREAS, Based in Ingram, the Hill Country Youth Ranch is a
21 nonprofit residential facility for children from across Texas who
22 have met with difficult obstacles in their lives; since its
23 inception, the ranch has been home to more than 700 boys and girls;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, The five graduating seniors of Ed Brune Charter
2 School have faced significant challenges along the way, but with
3 hard work, determination, and the support of the caring staff and
4 volunteers at the Hill Country Youth Ranch, they have reached their
5 goal of attaining a high school diploma, and it is indeed fitting to
6 honor these young Texans and to wish them all the best in their
7 future endeavors; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to Oma Bell Perry for the generous
10 donation of her family's historic ranch, commend those associated
11 with the Hill Country Youth Ranch, and, most of all, congratulate
12 the Ed Brune Charter School graduating seniors of 2005, Johanna
13 Boone, Andrea Shannon, Darlene Stapleton, Kelly Vara, and Sara
14 Wallace; and, be it further

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