

By: Swinford

H.R. No. 2071

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Speaker Tom Craddick and Representatives David
2 Swinford, Robby Cook, Rob Eissler, Carter Casteel, Rick Hardcastle,
3 Ruben Hope, and Lois Kolkhorst are supporters of Texas A&M
4 University and its outstanding Agricultural and Natural Resources
5 Policy Internship Program and have sponsored interns during the
6 79th legislative session; and

7 WHEREAS, The ANRP program has sent student interns to Austin
8 and Washington, D.C., since 1990, and the program's 15th
9 anniversary provides an excellent opportunity to celebrate the
10 accomplishments of the program and recognize the ANRP participants
11 who are currently working with members of the legislature; and

12 WHEREAS, The internship program was established when a member
13 of the U.S. Congress sought an intern from Texas A&M University with
14 a background in agricultural and natural resources; since then, 425
15 ANRP students have worked in our nation's and state's capitals,
16 interning not only for state agencies and legislative offices in
17 Austin but also for the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, the
18 U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Association of State
19 Departments of Agriculture, and Texas congressional offices in
20 Washington; and

21 WHEREAS, Applicants face a rigorous screening process and are
22 evaluated for suitability as ANRP interns based on such criteria as
23 leadership in academic and extracurricular activities,
24 interpersonal skills, writing ability, grade point average, and

1 knowledge and interest in policy issues; once selected, interns
2 receive scholarships to help defray tuition and other expenses and
3 academic course credit for their work; most importantly, they gain
4 invaluable insight into public service and firsthand knowledge of
5 the policy-making process; as evidence of their enhanced
6 marketability in the workforce, at least 15 alumni of the program
7 are currently working as staff members in the Texas Legislature and
8 more than 50 alumni have returned to Washington to secure full-time
9 positions following graduation from Texas A&M; and

10 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Dr. Elsa Murano, vice
11 chancellor and dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
12 and director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, 12
13 students are currently serving as ANRP interns for the 79th Texas
14 Legislature; they are Marca Ewers, Scott Goodwin, Kyle Graves, Keri
15 Hoelscher, Weston Holmstrom, Laci LaPlante, Stephanie Largent,
16 Dalynn Rogers, Shelby Smith, Rebecca Thompson, Sally Wright, and
17 Tom Ben Williams; and

18 WHEREAS, These dedicated students from the College of
19 Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University have provided
20 vital support to the legislature throughout the session while
21 gaining valuable experience in public service, and it is a pleasure
22 to recognize the contributions of these exceptional young men and
23 women as well as the role of this outstanding program in preparing a
24 new generation of leaders; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
26 Legislature hereby commend the current participants of the Texas
27 A&M University Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy

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1 Internship Program for their hard work and dedication and honor
2 this significant endeavor on the 15th anniversary of its founding;
3 and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for the ANRP interns as an expression of appreciation and
6 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.