

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 4-H Youth Development Program of Texas marks a
2 significant milestone in its rich history with the commemoration of
3 its centennial, which is being observed from September 1, 2007, to
4 August 31, 2008; and

5 WHEREAS, The 4-H program got its start in 1908 when Jack
6 County extension agent T. M. Marks organized a club to teach boys
7 new production methods for corn; soon this corn club became the
8 model for pig clubs and beef calf clubs in Coleman County and for
9 tomato clubs for girls in Milam County, and in August 1912, the
10 first exhibition of girls' agricultural products in the state took
11 place when tomato club members showcased their harvest alongside
12 their male counterparts; two years later, the Texas Agricultural
13 Extension Service established 4-H clubs for African American youth
14 that taught vegetable gardening and poultry raising; and

15 WHEREAS, During the 1920s and the Great Depression, 4-H clubs
16 continued to spread throughout the state, and their instructional
17 focus reflected the times, with young men learning to maximize the
18 production of food and fiber through new technology and young women
19 learning food conservation, nutrition, and storage; the following
20 decade, when the nation was faced with food shortages as a result of
21 World War II, clubs worked to decrease livestock losses from
22 disease and improper care; and

23 WHEREAS, Today, nearly a million Texas youth participate in
24 4-H each year, with more than half of them residing in urban areas;
25 programs range in topic from agriculture and nutrition to space

1 science and technology, and some are developed based on the
2 resources and needs of a particular county or demographic; for
3 example, Operation Military Kids supports the children of military
4 families, and Young Leaders in Action teaches Harris County youth
5 about state government by linking them to local legislators; each
6 program encourages productive use of the four H's--Head, Heart,
7 Hands, and Health--and supports the organization's motto, "to make
8 the best better"; and

9 WHEREAS, Administered by the Texas Cooperative Extension and
10 Prairie View A&M Cooperative Extension Program, 4-H is made
11 possible through the dedicated efforts of numerous employees and
12 some 40,000 trained volunteers; and

13 WHEREAS, The 4-H Youth Development Program of Texas has
14 provided exceptional learning experiences to generations of
15 children and adolescents, enhancing the quality of life for
16 countless individuals, families, and communities; now, therefore,
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
19 Legislature hereby recognize September 1, 2007, through August 31,
20 2008, as the centennial anniversary of the 4-H Youth Development
21 Program of Texas and extend to 4-H administrators, staff,
22 volunteers, and participants sincere best wishes for continued
23 success; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for the 4-H Youth Development Program of Texas as an
26 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Hardcastle

H.R. No. 903

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 903 was adopted by the House on April 5, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House