

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Educators from the Callisburg Independent School  
2 District and schools in Kesennuma, Japan, are taking part in the  
3 Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Master Teacher Program, and their  
4 inspiring exchange of ideas is enhancing the quality of education  
5 for students in both countries; and

6           WHEREAS, The Master Teacher Program is a remarkable  
7 collaboration between Japanese and American educators that  
8 furthers cross-cultural learning and the development of  
9 international curricula and allows students of different  
10 nationalities to work together in researching important issues; and

11           WHEREAS, In the course of the program, the teachers visit  
12 their partner country to learn more about the community and school  
13 they are collaborating with; through these visits and online  
14 activities, they develop joint science projects that will be  
15 carried out by their students later in the year; also taking part in  
16 the project are authorities from universities and businesses in the  
17 United States and Japan, who provide vital expertise to the  
18 students and assist them in performing research; and

19           WHEREAS, The Japanese participants in the  
20 Callisburg-Kesennuma joint venture include Yukihiro Oikawa of the  
21 Kesennuma City Board of Education, Noriko Memezawa of the Miyagi  
22 University of Education Environmental Education Center, Yuichi  
23 Hatakeyama of Kesennuma Omose Elementary School, Seiichi Yokoyama  
24 and Hiroko Miyazaki of Kesennuma Shishiori Elementary School,

1 Katsushi Komatsu and Satoru Miura of Kesennuma Omose Junior High  
2 School, and Takanobu Kato and Satoka Sawauchi of Miyagi Prefectural  
3 Kesennuma High School; and

4 WHEREAS, Their counterparts from Texas include Donald  
5 Metzler, the assistant superintendent for curriculum and  
6 instruction for Callisburg ISD, Danita Ortowski and Deana Melancon  
7 of Callisburg Elementary School, Tom Demetrion and Carla Taylor of  
8 Callisburg Middle School, Tim Jones of Callisburg High School, Dr.  
9 Eddie Hadlock, the president of North Central Texas College, Lisa  
10 Bellows, department chair, and Sara Flusche of the science  
11 department at North Central Texas College, Dr. Carol Fletcher of  
12 the Texas Regional Collaborative for Excellence in Science  
13 Teaching, and Dr. Molly Weinburgh, the director of Instructional  
14 Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education at Texas Christian  
15 University; and

16 WHEREAS, Both the Callisburg and Kesennuma educators have  
17 taken part in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund joint ventures in  
18 each of the past three years; the Texas school district has become  
19 an especially prominent player among the American contingent in the  
20 Master Teacher Program, providing three of the 10 U.S. schools  
21 selected for 2007; and

22 WHEREAS, The students in the Callisburg-Kesennuma  
23 collaboration are studying water quality in rivers near their  
24 communities and will share their findings through monthly video  
25 conferences; these activities will allow them to learn important  
26 scientific and environmental information as well as foster greater  
27 understanding between the two nations, and it is a pleasure to

1 recognize all of the participants in this rewarding program; now,  
2 therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
4 Legislature hereby honor the Japanese and Texas educators taking  
5 part in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Master Teacher Program  
6 and extend to them best wishes for success in their educational  
7 project; and, be it further

8       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
9 prepared for participants of the program as an expression of high  
10 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Hardcastle

H.R. No. 904

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 904 was adopted by the House on April 5, 2007, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House