

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 2473

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Five outstanding students from The University of
2 Texas at San Antonio make up the second class of the McClendon
3 Legislative Service Scholars Program, and as the 80th Legislative
4 Session draws to a close, it is indeed appropriate to recognize
5 these dedicated interns; and

6 WHEREAS, Created by Representative Ruth Jones McClendon in
7 August 2004, the McClendon Legislative Service Scholars Program is
8 a collaborative initiative with the UTSA Institute of Law and
9 Public Affairs; coordinated by the institute's director and UTSA
10 political science professor Richard Gambitta, the program gives
11 undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to serve as
12 interns in the Texas House of Representatives during regular
13 legislative sessions; selected by a UTSA scholarship committee
14 based on academic credentials as well as such criteria as good
15 judgment, independent thinking, and professionalism, the interns
16 are assigned to work in the offices of members of the house
17 throughout the session; and

18 WHEREAS, An intern in the office of Representative Jim Pitts
19 and a biology major, Patric Hernandez is a member of the Sigma Xi
20 Scientific Research Society and attended the Maximum Impact
21 Leadership Conference of 2006; a recipient of the UTSA
22 International Education Fund Scholarship and the UTSA Honors
23 College Presidential Scholarship, he has studied in New Zealand and
24 served as an intern in U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's office,

1 and he looks forward to a career in the field of science and public
2 policy; and

3 WHEREAS, Crystal Longoria has earned a Certificate in Legal
4 Reasoning from the UTSA Institute for Law and Public Affairs as well
5 as a USAA Criminal Justice Scholarship and a Bill Archer
6 Fellowship; majoring in both criminal justice and political
7 science, she has served as an intern in the office of Representative
8 Jim McReynolds; a former intern with the Congressional Hispanic
9 Caucus Institute in Washington, D.C., she has volunteered with the
10 Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center and has worked as a tutor with the
11 Tomas Rivera Center; Ms. Longoria plans to work to improve the
12 funding of public education; and

13 WHEREAS, A graduate student in political science, Margaret
14 Richardson has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with a minor
15 in political science; she is a voting member of the UTSA Tuition and
16 Fees Committee and a founding member of the *Initium* journal, and she
17 has worked as a volunteer in the special bond election for Alamo
18 Community College; an intern in the office of Representative Jose
19 Menendez, she hopes to use her internship as a foundation for
20 becoming an advocate for her community; and

21 WHEREAS, Also a political science graduate student, Melissa
22 Rosser earned her bachelor's degree in political science with a
23 minor in sociology; a former summer intern with the U.S. Census
24 Bureau in Washington, D.C., she has served as a teaching assistant
25 for the UTSA political science department and a research assistant
26 for the UTSA Media and Elections Studio; she has been an officer of
27 the Sam Houston Democrats and a volunteer for various campaigns

1 with the Walker County Democratic Party; this session, she has
2 served as an intern in the office of Representative Dawanna Dukes;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Joel Tabar, a criminal justice major and the holder
5 of a Certificate in Legal Reasoning, has held office as president of
6 the Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society, vice president of
7 the Alpha Chi Honor Society, and Sergeant-at-Arms of the Omega Nu
8 Epsilon Criminal Justice Fraternity; he has served his country in
9 the Air Force ROTC and works as a supplemental instructor in
10 criminal justice at UTSA; an intern for Representative McClendon,
11 he has worked with the UTSA Voter Registration Drive and Habitat for
12 Humanity and looks forward to a future in public policy; and

13 WHEREAS, These dedicated students have provided vital
14 support services to the legislature throughout the session while
15 gaining important firsthand experience in government, and it is a
16 pleasure to recognize the contributions of these accomplished young
17 people as well as the role of this exceptional program in preparing
18 our future generation of leaders; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
20 Legislature hereby commend the McClendon Legislative Service
21 Scholars Program on its successful second year and extend to Patric
22 Hernandez, Crystal Longoria, Margaret Richardson, Melissa Rosser,
23 and Joel Tabar sincere best wishes for success in all their
24 endeavors; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for the interns as an expression of high regard by the
27 Texas House of Representatives.