

By: Uresti

S.C.R. No. 71

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Farmers operating over the Edwards Aquifer have
3 conserved more water than any other aquifer user group in the
4 Edwards region and stand ready to make this water available to help
5 meet current and projected water needs within their local
6 communities; and

7 WHEREAS, Farmers that use the Edwards Aquifer for irrigation
8 used less than 88,000 acre-feet per year on the average over a
9 seven-year period ending in 2005, and this represents more than a 60
10 percent savings in water use compared to the maximum historical
11 use; and

12 WHEREAS, It should be noted that 127,000 acre-feet of
13 conserved irrigation water has been permitted and, by recognizing
14 the need to conserve for current and projected water supply needs,
15 is available through water transfers from farmers to municipalities
16 and industry; and

17 WHEREAS, One acre-foot of water is capable of supporting
18 three families of four for one year, and the water that the farmers
19 conserved would support 380,000 families over the Edwards Aquifer;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, These farmers have conserved this water without
22 reducing the number of acres under irrigation or decreasing levels
23 of agribusiness production, and this level of conservation is only
24 possible through the farmers' substantial investment of time and

1 money in efficient equipment and agricultural processes; and

2 WHEREAS, According to a recent Edwards Aquifer Authority
3 survey, farmers utilize more than 535 center pivot or linear
4 irrigation systems to irrigate more than 62,000 acres of farmland
5 over the Edwards Aquifer, and when you consider that the average
6 cost of a system is \$600 per acre, it is estimated that farmers have
7 invested more than \$37 million to conserve water; and

8 WHEREAS, The farmers of Medina and Uvalde Counties deserve
9 the utmost commendation and praise for their water conservation
10 efforts and their respect for this treasured water resource; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby express appreciation for the efforts of the farmers of
14 Medina and Uvalde Counties in the Edwards Aquifer region for their
15 tremendous efforts in water conservation to the benefit of the
16 citizens of this region and the state; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared in honor
18 of the farmers of Medina and Uvalde Counties.