

By: Riddle

H.R. No. 250

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lisa Stoyak of Tomball has instituted the Ultimate
2 Gift program in her classroom at Northpointe Intermediate School,
3 and this far-reaching initiative has proven an outstanding learning
4 tool that greatly benefits those in need; and

5 WHEREAS, Inspired by the book *The Ultimate Gift* by Jim
6 Stovall, Ms. Stoyak's Ultimate Gift program introduces students to
7 the value of giving; each member of her class is provided \$5, and is
8 assigned the task of multiplying the money so that it can be donated
9 to a charitable purpose; the funds given to the students come
10 directly from Ms. Stoyak, whose personal generosity offers the
11 students an inspiring example of philanthropy; and

12 WHEREAS, In the inaugural year of the program in 2007, Ms.
13 Stoyak's students found innovative ways to raise thousands of
14 dollars for local causes such as Sunshine Kids, Tomball Emergency
15 Assistance Ministries, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation,
16 and the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2008, the students chose to donate their proceeds
18 to Living Water International, a worldwide water rehabilitation
19 program; through diligence and ingenuity, Ms. Stoyak's sixth
20 graders raised more than \$7,000 in less than two weeks and used it
21 to help provide clean wells for residents of the hurricane-ravaged
22 Caribbean nation of Haiti; this project was especially close to the
23 hearts of the students because their own area suffered damage from
24 Hurricane Ike in 2008; once the project was complete, the students

1 held a drive to collect toiletry items such as soap, toothpaste, and
2 toothbrushes to further assist residents of Haiti; and

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Stoyak and her students have continued their
4 philanthropic work beyond their classroom exercise by encouraging
5 every student at Northpointe Intermediate to donate one book to a
6 new Ronald McDonald Library being built in the area; in this manner,
7 the students are passing along the valuable lessons they have
8 learned in the course of their participation in the Ultimate Gift
9 program; and

10 WHEREAS, The all-important concept of helping others is an
11 essential and timeless value, and Lisa Stoyak has developed a
12 program that allows children to realize their ability to make a
13 positive difference in the world; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor Lisa Stoyak and her students at
16 Northpointe Intermediate School for the tremendous achievements of
17 the Ultimate Gift program and extend to them sincere best wishes for
18 continued success in all their endeavors; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Ms. Stoyak as an expression of high regard by the Texas
21 House of Representatives.