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RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Autism Council for Educational 2 Support and Scientific Studies and the Rio Grande Valley Task Force 3 of the Texas Council on Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders are visiting the State Capitol on February 26, 2009, 4 5 providing а welcome opportunity to honor these notable organizations; and 6

WHEREAS, "Pervasive developmental disorders" refers to a 7 group of disorders characterized by delays in the development of 8 socialization and communication skills; autism, the most common of 9 these disorders, is the result of a neurological disorder that 10 11 affects the functioning of the brain and impacts normal development 12 of social interaction and communication skills; autism typically appears during the first three years of life and affects as many as 13 14 six per 1,000 individuals; other pervasive developmental disorders include Asperger's syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder, 15 16 Rett syndrome, and PDD-not otherwise specified; and

Texas Council on Autism and 17 WHEREAS, The Pervasive Developmental Disorders was established by legislation in 1987 and 18 works to ensure that the needs of persons with autism and other 19 20 pervasive developmental disorders and their families are 21 addressed; task forces located throughout the state advise the council on a range of issues, and the council in turn makes 22 23 recommendations to state agencies and the state legislature; and 24 WHEREAS, Organized to improve autism services, education,

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1 and research in the Rio Grande Valley, the Autism Council for 2 Educational Support and Scientific Studies consists of parents of 3 children with autism, as well as professionals who regularly work 4 with the autism spectrum disorders population; the Autism Council 5 seeks to facilitate the development of an informed and united 6 community, and as such, hosts a monthly autism support group; and

7 WHEREAS, Through their efforts to raise awareness of these 8 prevalent developmental disabilities, members of the Autism 9 Council for Educational Support and Scientific Studies and the Rio 10 Grande Valley Task Force of the Texas Council on Autism and 11 Pervasive Developmental Disorders are making a positive difference 12 in the lives of South Texans, and they are indeed deserving of 13 recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas Legislature hereby honor the Autism Council for Educational Support and Scientific Studies and the Rio Grande Valley Task Force of the Texas Council on Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders and extend to their members sincere best wishes for continued success with their important work; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 21 prepared for the organizations as an expression of high regard by 22 the Texas House of Representatives.

Gonzales

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 637 was adopted by the House on February 26, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House