

By: Pierson

H.R. No. 648

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2009 marks the 50th anniversary of the
2 founding of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Arlington; and

3 WHEREAS, Since it was established in 1959, this noteworthy
4 organization has worked to inspire and enable all young people to
5 realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and
6 compassionate citizens; by engaging youth in numerous activities
7 with caring adults, peers, and family members, the Boys and Girls
8 Clubs of Arlington promotes such worthy goals as positive
9 self-identity, community and civic involvement, health and
10 well-being, and strong moral values; and

11 WHEREAS, The organization served 100 youth in its first year
12 of operation, and by 1980, the number had grown to 2,000; today,
13 more than 6,000 individuals, ages 6 to 18, participate in the Boys
14 and Girls Clubs of Arlington each year, and 86 percent of these
15 youth come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds; the
16 programs offered at the Boys and Girls Clubs are designed to meet
17 the diverse needs and interests of all the participants, and are
18 focused on the areas of character and leadership, health and life
19 skills, education and careers, the arts and sports, and fitness and
20 recreation; and

21 WHEREAS, With the average member spending 12 hours per week
22 at its facilities, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Arlington has
23 expanded its range of activities to serve the growing population;
24 in addition to a homework assistance program, the organization

1 features a Kids Cafe that serves nutritious meals, as well as the
2 Major League Baseball initiative, Reviving Baseball in Inner
3 Cities, and it provides transportation to its clubs from local
4 Title I schools; the group has also partnered with the Arlington
5 Police Department to establish camps for at-risk teenagers, and it
6 works with Tarrant County Juvenile Service and Arlington P.D. to
7 target first-time youth offenders and offer them alternative
8 activities at the clubs; and

9 WHEREAS, Committed to youth development, the Boys and Girls
10 Clubs of Arlington is building a solid foundation for the future
11 achievement of many young Texans, and its efforts have benefited
12 the local community as a whole; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
14 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Boys and
15 Girls Clubs of Arlington and extend to all those affiliated with the
16 organization sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Arlington as an expression
20 of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.