

By: Truitt

H.R. No. 1499

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Graduates of the Local Leadership and Advocacy  
2 training project of The Arc of Greater Tarrant County are visiting  
3 the State Capitol on April 24, 2009; and

4           WHEREAS, Founded in 1949, The Arc of Greater Tarrant County  
5 advocates on behalf of and in collaboration with people with  
6 intellectual and other developmental disabilities in order to  
7 improve their quality of life; the organization's service area  
8 recently expanded to include Johnson, Parker, Hood, and Wise  
9 Counties in addition to Tarrant County, and in 2007 it provided  
10 services to some 4,000 area Texans; and

11           WHEREAS, The Arc of GTC's Local Leadership and Advocacy  
12 training project, which is funded in part by the Texas Council for  
13 Developmental Disabilities, offers participants an opportunity to  
14 learn about the Texas legislative process, strategies for  
15 effectively telling their story, methods for building grassroots  
16 coalitions, and tips for using the Internet and media to advance  
17 important issues; and

18           WHEREAS, Members of this year's class, who have now graduated  
19 to the Advocacy and Leadership League, include Brandon Cabral, Kate  
20 Funk, David Swallow, Will Kovich, Beverly Black, Dale Swallow, and  
21 Kendra Kerbow; and

22           WHEREAS, These dedicated Texans have put their education into  
23 practice by attending a local town hall to discuss transportation  
24 needs, writing letters to state representatives and to the

1 president of the United States, testifying before the Texas Senate  
2 Committee on Health and Human Services about state school  
3 conditions and Medicaid issues, and visiting legislators in support  
4 of "People First" appropriate language; and

5 WHEREAS, The Local Leadership and Advocacy training project  
6 promotes self-confidence and encourages participants to work  
7 toward ensuring equal opportunities for all, and it is a pleasure to  
8 honor this worthwhile initiative; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
10 Legislature hereby welcome the graduates of the Local Leadership  
11 and Advocacy training project of The Arc of Greater Tarrant County  
12 and extend to them sincere best wishes for a memorable visit to  
13 Austin; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for the group as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
16 House of Representatives.