

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A superb American athlete brought great honor to her
3 country and to Collin County when Nastia Liukin of Parker won five
4 medals in the gymnastics competition at the 2008 Olympic Games in
5 Beijing; and

6 WHEREAS, In a masterful demonstration of her grace and
7 athletic ability, Ms. Liukin claimed the gold medal in the Women's
8 Individual All-Around Final and added two silver medals and one
9 bronze medal in individual events as well as a silver medal in the
10 team competition; her success tied the previous record for the most
11 medals won by a United States gymnast in one Olympics; and

12 WHEREAS, Anastasia Liukin was born on October 30, 1989, in
13 Moscow, Russia; her mother, Anna, was a world champion in rhythmic
14 gymnastics while her father, Valeri, won two gold medals and two
15 silver medals at the 1988 Olympic Games as a member of the Soviet
16 gymnastics team; when Nastia was two years old, the family moved to
17 the United States, where her parents began working as gymnastics
18 coaches; and

19 WHEREAS, While still very young, she began accompanying her
20 mother and father to the gym, where she amused herself by imitating
21 the routines of the older children training there; realizing that
22 Nastia's talent and desire could not be ignored, her parents began
23 teaching her the fundamentals of the sport; throughout her career,
24 she has been coached by her father, a founder of the World Olympic

1 Gymnastics Academy, which has three locations in the Dallas-Fort
2 Worth area, including the Plano gym where Nastia continues to
3 train; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Liukin began competing at age six, and in 2005,
5 she advanced to the senior international elite level; that same
6 year she won the national all-around title and was world champion in
7 two events; her progress was slowed the following year when she
8 suffered a serious ankle injury, but she battled back in 2007 and
9 claimed the world title on the balance beam; in June 2008 at the
10 Visa Championships, she won two events and finished second in the
11 all-around competition to set the stage for her Olympic appearance
12 in Beijing; and

13 WHEREAS, After joining with her fellow United States gymnasts
14 to place second in the team competition on August 13, Ms. Liukin
15 achieved her greatest triumph two days later, when she was crowned
16 the all-around Olympic champion; this victory was made even sweeter
17 by the fact that her father had narrowly missed winning the
18 all-around title 20 years earlier in the 1988 Olympics; in the days
19 that followed, she also earned a bronze medal in floor exercise and
20 silver medals in the balance beam and uneven bars events; and

21 WHEREAS, Her triumph inspired an outpouring of enthusiasm in
22 Collin County; on August 30, 2008, the city of Parker hosted a
23 parade that included Nastia and her family and featured the Plano
24 East Senior High School Marching Band, and a reception followed at
25 Southfork Ranch; there, area residents got an additional chance to
26 show their pride in the gymnast's accomplishments, and among those
27 in attendance were elected officials representing Collin County at

1 the local, state, and federal level; moreover, the Parker City
2 Council declared July 2008 as a special month to honor this
3 outstanding athlete; and

4 WHEREAS, The title of Olympic champion is an elite honor that
5 many strive to attain but few achieve; Nastia Liukin's
6 unforgettable accomplishments in Beijing have placed her at the
7 pinnacle of her sport and earned the proud admiration of her fellow
8 citizens in the State of Texas and throughout the nation; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
11 hereby congratulate Nastia Liukin on winning five medals in the
12 gymnastics competition at the 2008 Olympic Games and that she be
13 extended sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for Ms. Liukin as an expression of high regard by the Texas
17 House of Representatives and Senate.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 14 was adopted by the Senate on February 10, 2009, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 14 was adopted by the House on February 11, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 139, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor