1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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2 WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas takes pleasure 3 in recognizing Saint Mary's University on the inaugural year of its 4 newly created legislative internship program and in commending the

5 exemplary students who are this year's participants; and

WHEREAS, The Frank Madla, Jr., and Irma Rangel Legislative
Internship Program provides an opportunity for graduate and
undergraduate students who are interested in the legislative
process or who wish to pursue a career in state policy to experience
work in a legislative environment through hands-on participation;
and

WHEREAS, The internship program is named for two of the university's alumni who worked their way to greatness from modest beginnings; both the late Honorable Frank Madla, Jr., and the late Honorable Irma Rangel had a significant impact on San Antonio and South Texas through their outstanding service in the Texas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Senator Madla served for 20 years as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, where he was an outspoken advocate for health care and education, and during his 13-year tenure in the Senate, he was honored repeatedly for his service to the state; his accolades include Texas Medicine's Best Legislator Award; and

23 WHEREAS, Representative Rangel was the first Mexican 24 American woman elected to the Texas Legislature, where she went on

- 1 to serve for 26 years; she is noted for her exceptional work as a
- 2 proponent of higher education and of equal rights for minorities
- 3 and the poor; she was the recipient of multiple honors for her
- 4 pioneering service, including induction into the Texas Women's Hall
- 5 of Fame in 1994; and
- 6 WHEREAS, The internship program is designed to inspire
- 7 students to follow in the footsteps of such legends; it gives
- 8 participants insight into the legislative process and challenges
- 9 them to make a difference in their communities; the admission
- 10 standards are high, and the students selected must commit to
- 11 working in Austin for at least 40 hours per week while completing
- 12 six credit hours of course work; and
- WHEREAS, Participants are placed in legislative offices as
- 14 staff members with responsibilities and duties ranging from
- 15 assistant committee clerk to legislative policy analyst; they must
- 16 develop a keen understanding not only of legislative policy, but of
- 17 the inherent intricacies of the Texas Legislature as an entity; and
- 18 WHEREAS, The undergraduate students chosen as this year's
- 19 interns are Andrea Chavez, in the office of Representative David
- 20 Leibowitz; Carolina Hernandez and Sarah Linares, in the office of
- 21 Representative Joaquin Castro; Mark Reyna, in the office of Senator
- 22 Carlos Uresti; and Matthew Reyna, in the office of Senator John
- 23 Carona; the graduate students are Ayed Ahbabi, in the office of
- 24 Representative Roland Gutierrez; Saad Aldosari, in the office of
- 25 Representative Tara Rios Ybarra; and Sherita Simmons, in the office
- 26 of Senator Leticia Van de Putte; and
- 27 WHEREAS, These interns have received weekly on-site

- 1 classroom instruction and have become familiar with the inner
- 2 workings of the Texas House of Representatives and Senate while
- 3 learning how to research and draft legislation, analyze policy, and
- 4 interact with constituents and the press; and
- 5 WHEREAS, The program benefits from the assistance and
- 6 direction of Professor Arturo Vega, who serves as its on-campus
- 7 coordinator, and David C. Courreges, who serves as the on-site
- 8 adjunct professor; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Saint Mary's University is well known for its
- 10 long-standing tradition of instilling in its students the spirit of
- 11 public service, and its legislative internship program will be a
- 12 valuable asset in preparing its graduates to take on leadership
- 13 roles in their communities and in the governmental arena; now,
- 14 therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
- 16 hereby commend Saint Mary's University on implementing the Frank
- 17 Madla, Jr., and Irma Rangel Legislative Internship Program and
- 18 extend congratulations to this year's interns, who have
- 19 distinguished themselves in their challenging roles; and, be it
- 20 further
- 21 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared in honor
- 22 of this exemplary program.

President of the Senate	Speaker of the House
I hereby certify that S.C.R.	No. 76 was adopted by the Senate
on May 22, 2009.	
	Secretary of the Senate
I hereby certify that S.C.R. on May 22, 2009.	No. 76 was adopted by the House
	Chief Clerk of the House
Approved:	
Date	
Governor	