

By: Deshotel

H.R. No. 1643

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Small Farmers and Ranchers Community Based
2 Organization is dedicated to assisting historically underserved
3 agricultural producers and to saving small farms and ranches; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1998, the 100 Farmers Conference was held at
5 Langston University in Oklahoma City to unite small and underserved
6 farmers and rural residents to communicate their needs, chart their
7 own destinies, and begin to engage themselves in the development of
8 public policy; participants from Texas formed TSFR/CBO as a
9 community-based nonprofit organization committed to enhancing
10 rural economies, conserving and managing natural resources,
11 preventing the further decline of family farms, and improving the
12 quality of life for minorities in rural communities; and

13 WHEREAS, Today, TSFR/CBO works to develop agricultural
14 markets, increase technology transfer, and improve environmental
15 conditions in rural Texas; moreover, it advocates for small farmers
16 and ranchers at local, state, and national levels; it is currently
17 partnering with the Texas/Mexico Border Coalition and The
18 University of Texas--Pan American in the South Central Initiative
19 for Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and
20 Ranchers, sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture
21 to increase participation in its programs; and

22 WHEREAS, Providing myriad technical assistance and
23 educational opportunities, TSFR/CBO supports its clients with a
24 wide range of activities, including visits to individual ranches

1 and farms, surplus pine tree seeding, topography map and soil
2 analysis, a youth gardening program, career and scholarship
3 programs for young people, and workshops in risk management, estate
4 planning, water quality, and other subjects; this dynamic group
5 broadens its services by partnering with a host of organizations,
6 among them the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Texas
7 State Technical Committee, the Farm Service Agency, the Texas
8 Agri-Life Extension Service, and FFA; and

9 WHEREAS, Guided by state coordinator W. Wade Ross, the Texas
10 Small Farmers and Ranchers Community Based Organization greatly
11 benefits rural communities across the Lone Star State through its
12 multifaceted programs, and it is indeed fitting to recognize its
13 vital contributions; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor the Texas Small Farmers and Ranchers
16 Community Based Organization and extend to its staff sincere best
17 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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