

By: Button

H.R. No. 2714

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The talented members of the Knight Owls robotics  
2 team of Garland High School distinguished themselves by advancing  
3 to the semifinals of the FIRST Robotics Regional Competition held  
4 at the Dallas Convention Center April 7-9, 2011; and

5           WHEREAS, Established in 1992, FIRST (For Inspiration and  
6 Recognition of Science and Technology) encourages young people to  
7 become active in those fields of study by taking part in a robotics  
8 competition; starting in January, each team begins with a standard  
9 kit of parts and has six weeks to design and build a robot capable of  
10 performing simple tasks by remote control; the creations are then  
11 matched against one another in regional and national contests; and

12           WHEREAS, The Garland High School Knight Owls robotics team  
13 was founded in 2009 and competed that year in the Dallas BEST  
14 competition; the team's participation in the FIRST regional in  
15 Dallas was aided by a grant it received from NASA in 2010; and

16           WHEREAS, This year's FIRST competition required a robot that  
17 could hang inflated plastic shapes on a grid during a match that  
18 lasted a little more than two minutes; the Knight Owls accomplished  
19 this feat by dividing into three teams--the build team, which  
20 constructed the robot, the programming team, which designed the  
21 robot's circuitry, and the public relations team, which raised  
22 awareness about the project; and

23           WHEREAS, The FIRST contest rules encourage cooperation  
24 between teams, and at the meet in Dallas the Knight Owls made a

1 valuable alliance with a team from Tulsa, Oklahoma, which provided  
2 the Knight Owls with a minibot that allowed them to win a qualifying  
3 round at the buzzer; after reaching the semifinals, the Knight Owls  
4 were grouped into another alliance with two other teams, and the  
5 alliance made it to the second semifinal round before being  
6 defeated; and

7         WHEREAS, Through their participation in this exciting and  
8 challenging program, the Garland High Knight Owls enhanced their  
9 knowledge of science and technology while learning important  
10 lessons regarding teamwork, and they may indeed take great pride in  
11 their impressive showing at the FIRST competition; now, therefore,  
12 be it

13         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
14 Legislature hereby congratulate the Garland High School Knight Owls  
15 on advancing to the semifinals of the 2011 FIRST Robotics Regional  
16 Competition in Dallas and extend to the team's members 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 Knight Owls as an expression of high regard by the  
20 Texas House of Representatives.