

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 809

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the students from Texas A&M University who are participating in policy internship programs in Austin this legislative session; and

WHEREAS, Twenty-three Texas A&M University students are providing valuable support to the 82nd Texas Legislature while gaining experience in public service as members of the Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program and the Public Policy Internship Program; and

WHEREAS, For more than two decades, the Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program has sent student interns to Austin and Washington, D.C., where they work on a wide array of issues; their strong background and interest in agriculture and natural resources allow them to offer specialized knowledge to legislators; the program was founded in response to a request by a member of the United States Congress for an intern who could assist his office with these matters, and it has since grown to include numerous congressional offices, as well as the United States House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture, the United States Department of Agriculture, and offices on the state level during legislative years; more than 700 students have participated in semester-long internships; and

WHEREAS, The Public Policy Internship Program, established in 1999, works with various colleges and departments to create an interdisciplinary environment for comprehensive academic training, research, and policy programming; interns in the nation's capital and in Austin serve in a variety of settings that align with their academic and professional goals; more than 400 students have participated in semester-long internships; and

WHEREAS, Led by Texas A&M University Policy Internship Programs Director Breanne Svehla, both programs select their highly qualified and dedicated members through a rigorous application process; in addition to academic achievement, students must demonstrate their potential to take full advantage of the opportunities for scholarly and professional development as well as the desire to serve our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, The 2011 Texas A&M University policy interns serving in Austin are: Mary Beth Allcorn, Michael Baca, Cai Benavides, Jennifer Bremer, Jonathan Connors, Matthew Cope, Jessica Decker, Katelin Dietz, Renee Gertson, Blane Langston, Bridget Levien, Emily Lord, Thaís Macedo, Patrick McMahon, Nathan Motl, Rebecca Pride, Shelly Reynolds, Benjamin Rowe, Reagan Rupard, Ryan Skrobarczyk, Lance Umlang, Eugenia Wagner, and Jordan Williford; and

WHEREAS, Through the years, the Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy and Public Policy Internship Programs have helped exceptional students deepen their understanding of governmental operations while developing professional skills and

networks, and alumni have gone on to make vital contributions and assume leadership roles in a variety of arenas; the outstanding young people who are giving of their time and talents throughout this legislative session can indeed take pride in their achievements and their service to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby recognize the Texas A&M University Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program and Public Policy Internship Program and commend the current participants for their diligence and commitment; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program and the Public Policy Internship Program interns as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Nelson, Deuell, Harris,
Hegar, Lucio

Member, Texas Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 19, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate