

By: Rodriguez of Bexar

H.R. No. 492

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A distinguished group from St. Mary's University is
2 gathering at the State Capitol on February 19, 2013, and their visit
3 offers a welcome opportunity to honor this respected Catholic
4 liberal arts institution; and

5 WHEREAS, The oldest university in San Antonio and the oldest
6 Catholic university in Texas, St. Mary's was established by
7 Marianist brothers and priests in 1852; its 135-acre campus
8 northwest of downtown is home to a diverse student body with a
9 current enrollment of approximately 4,000, and a 13 to 1
10 student-to-faculty ratio fosters a close-knit and supportive
11 academic community; and

12 WHEREAS, St. Mary's has built a national reputation for the
13 quality of its programs and for fostering a spirit of civic
14 engagement; it is the alma mater of more than 300 elected officials,
15 who have served both our state and our nation with distinction; and

16 WHEREAS, More than 70 percent of the school's students
17 participate in community service activities, and the institution
18 has earned a number of honors for this notable achievement; the
19 Carnegie Foundation granted St. Mary's University its prestigious
20 Community Engagement Classification in recognition of the school's
21 mission-driven focus on academic rigor, community service, and
22 civic participation; in addition, the university was named to
23 President Obama's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll
24 with Distinction, while *Washington Monthly* magazine rated St.

1 Mary's first in the nation for promoting an ethic of service to
2 country, fostering scientific and humanistic research, and
3 performing as an engine of social mobility; moreover, the John
4 Templeton Foundation lists it as a College that Builds Character,
5 and the *Princeton Review* and *Campus Compact* named it one of the
6 nation's top Colleges with a Conscience; and

7 WHEREAS, St. Mary's has also been recognized by The Education
8 Trust as one of the nation's best universities for graduating
9 Hispanic students at the same rate as other students; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to its outstanding academic programs,
11 the school takes pride in its athletic record; it has won six
12 national titles in basketball, baseball, softball, and golf and is
13 home to 167 All-American Scholar athletes; and

14 WHEREAS, With Thomas M. Mengler, J.D., as its newly
15 inaugurated president, St. Mary's University continues to build on
16 its rich tradition of academic excellence while encouraging
17 leadership and service to the greater community; now, therefore, be
18 it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
20 Legislature hereby welcome the visiting members of the St. Mary's
21 University community to the State Capitol and honor the school for
22 its exceptional contributions to higher education.