

By: Lavender

H.R. No. 851

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Matthew Draeger of Paris, Texas, has been named one
2 of the top two youth volunteers in Texas by the 2013 Prudential
3 Spirit of Community Awards program; and

4 WHEREAS, Sponsored by Prudential Financial in partnership
5 with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the
6 Spirit of Community Awards honor middle and high school students
7 who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their
8 fellow citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, A 15-year-old sophomore at Paris High School,
10 Mr. Draeger launched an innovative project known as Operation
11 Second Chance to aid disadvantaged families in the area; with the
12 help of friends, he approached local businesses and civic groups,
13 seeking items such as furniture, clothing, bedding, and toiletries
14 to be distributed to those in need; as part of the initiative, the
15 volunteers renovated several facilities that were used to store the
16 donations, and their campaign proved so successful that they
17 ultimately secured the use of half of a vacant factory to house
18 their inventory; to date, Operation Second Chance has collected
19 more than \$1.3 million worth of goods and has benefited over 1,250
20 families; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Draeger's recognition for his charitable work
22 includes a \$1,000 cash prize and an engraved silver medallion;
23 moreover, in May 2013 he will join the other state honorees in
24 Washington, D.C., where 10 individuals will be selected as the top

1 volunteers in the nation; and

2 WHEREAS, Matthew Draeger has set an inspiring example of
3 resourcefulness, generosity, and civic engagement, and he is to be
4 commended for his exceptional efforts; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Matthew Draeger on his selection as
7 one of the top two youth volunteers in Texas by the 2013 Prudential
8 Spirit of Community Awards program and extend to him sincere best
9 wishes for a bright future; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for Mr. Draeger as an expression of high regard by the
12 Texas House of Representatives.