

By: Deshotel

H.R. No. 1355

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Iram Leon of Austin won the hearts of people across  
2 the nation when he took first place in the Beaumont Gusher Marathon  
3 on March 9, 2013, while pushing his six-year-old daughter, Kiana,  
4 in a stroller; and

5           WHEREAS, Braving strong winds, errant shoelaces, and even a  
6 flat stroller tire, "Jay" Leon ended the 26-mile race with a time of  
7 3 hours, 7 minutes, and 35 seconds; on receiving his marathon medal,  
8 he draped it around the neck of Kiana, acknowledging her as the true  
9 champion; and

10           WHEREAS, Mr. Leon's win in this year's Gusher Marathon comes  
11 more than two years after he was diagnosed with grade 2 diffuse  
12 astrocytoma, an advanced form of brain cancer, shortly after his  
13 30th birthday; resolving to cherish every moment, especially those  
14 spent with Kiana, he began including his daughter in his favorite  
15 hobby, running; and

16           WHEREAS, The father and daughter duo completed their first  
17 half-marathon in the fall of 2012, with Mr. Leon taking Kiana along  
18 in a stroller, and several more races have since followed; while he  
19 has had to convince marathon officials to allow this somewhat  
20 unconventional arrangement, he has made it a priority to have his  
21 daughter share in his achievements firsthand, and for her part,  
22 Kiana has taken to her role as his sidekick and number one  
23 cheerleader with great relish; and

24           WHEREAS, Mr. Leon reports on his activities to a growing fan

1 base through his blog and social media outlets, and he has been  
2 featured in multiple newspapers, magazines, online articles, and  
3 television programs across the world; through it all, he has  
4 remained consistent in his message, using his newfound fame to  
5 remind others to let their loved ones know how much they care about  
6 them; and

7       WHEREAS, Demonstrating an impassioned sense of purpose and an  
8 earnest devotion to Kiana, the most precious part of his life, Jay  
9 Leon continues on his journey with the heartfelt admiration of  
10 countless people, who clearly recognize a winner when they see one;  
11 now, therefore, be it

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
13 Legislature hereby congratulate Jay Leon on his first-place finish  
14 in the 2013 Gusher Marathon and commend him for his courage, good  
15 humor, and inspiring example; and, be it further

16       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for Mr. Leon as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
18 House of Representatives.