

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 243

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Sustainable Dairy Goat Initiative, a
2 student-run, nonprofit organization, seeks to help impoverished
3 individuals both at home and abroad to achieve a brighter future;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Founded in the summer of 2014 by Samuel Garcia, the
6 SDGI provides dairy goats and other sustainable food sources to
7 those in need; currently, the group is cooperating with the colonia
8 outreach program La Union Del Pueblo Entero to assist residents of
9 colonias in Hidalgo County, where the SDGI is supplying families
10 with both goats and seed for prickly pear cactus; the prickly pear
11 was chosen for cultivation because it is an easy-to-grow plant that
12 can survive in harsh conditions and because almost every part of the
13 plant is edible; the cactus can even serve as roughage for the goats
14 when feed stocks are low; ultimately, the SDGI intends to supply 20
15 to 30 families in the area and then help them to form a cooperative;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Another goal of the SDGI is to provide funding for
18 research related to sustainable agriculture; leaders of the
19 initiative are presently engaged in talks with the charity Farm
20 Africa to help it finance a value chain analysis in behalf of dairy
21 goat farmers in Kenya; and

22 WHEREAS, The SDGI is led by a board composed of Mr. Garcia,
23 Tom Jackson, Nelson Chen, and Will Herbst, all of whom attend The
24 University of Texas at Austin; branches of the organization have

1 been established at UT-Austin, Texas A&M University, Texas
2 Christian University, and Texas State University; and

3 WHEREAS, By working to address the complex problem of rural
4 poverty through such simple means as dairy goats, cactus seeds, and
5 cooperation, the Sustainable Dairy Goat Initiative is providing a
6 model for effective aid and helping a number of less-advantaged
7 Texans to build a more secure future for themselves and their
8 children; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor the Sustainable Dairy Goat Initiative for
11 its humanitarian efforts and extend to all those associated with
12 the group sincere best wishes for continued success.