

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Members and staff of Back on My Feet Austin are  
2 gathering at the State Capitol on February 25, 2015, and their visit  
3 provides a fitting opportunity to recognize this outstanding  
4 organization; and

5           WHEREAS, Affiliated with the national nonprofit group Back on  
6 My Feet, the Austin chapter uses the activity of running to help  
7 persons facing the challenge of homelessness to achieve  
8 self-sufficiency and stability in their lives; the organization  
9 evolved from a running club that Anne Mahlum started in  
10 Philadelphia in 2007 for men living in a local shelter; Ms. Mahlum  
11 believed that consistent participation in the group could help  
12 members to turn their lives around by gaining confidence in  
13 themselves as disciplined, hardworking, reliable individuals; her  
14 faith proved well founded, as those who committed to the regular  
15 morning runs began to develop a healthy self-image; moreover,  
16 through the support and encouragement they provided each other, the  
17 runners began to experience a welcome sense of community; and

18           WHEREAS, In a short time, volunteers were enlisted in the  
19 cause, and connections were made with local employers to help those  
20 who were ready to take steps toward independent living; the program  
21 now enables participants to attend financial literacy and  
22 skill-building courses offered by corporate and nonprofit  
23 partners, as well as receive assistance with job placement and with  
24 securing housing; to date, nearly half of the homeless participants

1 have attained employment, housing, or both through the program, and  
2 close to 75 percent have collaborated with staff to devise a plan of  
3 action for attaining those goals; and

4 WHEREAS, Back on My Feet now has 11 affiliates nationwide;  
5 the chapter in Austin was launched in January 2013, and since that  
6 time, it has seen notable progress, with 78 members having gained  
7 employment, 33 having found homes, and another 19 having received  
8 access to educational programs; and

9 WHEREAS, By taking part in Back on My Feet Austin,  
10 participants are working to build for themselves a brighter future,  
11 and it is a privilege to commend all those who have pledged to  
12 undertake that journey, as well as the caring staff members who have  
13 stood beside them; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
15 Legislature hereby welcome members of Back on My Feet Austin to the  
16 State Capitol and extend to all program participants sincere best  
17 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
19 prepared for the group as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
20 House of Representatives.

Dukes

Straus	Guerra	Otto
Allen	Guillen	Paddie
Alonzo	Gutierrez	Parker
Alvarado	Harless	Paul
Anchia	Hernandez	Peña
Anderson of Dallas	Herrero	Phelan
Anderson of McLennan	Howard	Phillips
Ashby	Huberty	Pickett
Aycock	Hughes	Price
Bell	Hunter	Raney
Blanco	Isaac	Raymond
Bohac	Israel	Reynolds
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Riddle
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rinaldi
Burkett	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Burns	Keough	Rodriguez of Travis
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Romero, Jr.
Button	King of Parker	Rose
Canales	King of Taylor	Sanford
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schaefer
Clardy	Klick	Schofield
Coleman	Koop	Shaheen
Collier	Krause	Sheets
Cook	Kuempel	Sheffield
Craddick	Landgraf	Simmons
Crownover	Larson	Simpson
Dale	Laubenberg	Smith
Darby	Leach	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Spitzer
Davis of Harris	Lozano	Springer
Deshotel	Lucio III	Stephenson
Dukes	Márquez	Stickland
Dutton	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Elkins	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Faircloth	McClendon	Tinderholt
Fallon	Menéndez	Turner of Collin
Farias	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Farney	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	VanDeaver
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White of Bell
Galindo	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Geren	Murphy	Workman
Giddings	Murr	Wray
Goldman	Naishtat	Wu
Gonzales	Nevárez	Zedler
González	Oliveira	Zerwas

H.R. No. 663

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 663 was adopted by the House on February 25, 2015, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House