

By: Kacal

H.R. No. 1290

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Thirty-five Texas A&M University students are
2 providing valuable support to the 84th Texas Legislature while
3 gaining experience in public service as members of the Agricultural
4 and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program and the Public
5 Policy Internship Program; and

6 WHEREAS, For two and a half decades, the Agricultural and
7 Natural Resources Policy Internship Program has sent student
8 interns to Austin and Washington, D.C., where they work on a wide
9 array of issues; their strong background and interest in
10 agriculture and natural resources allow them to offer specialized
11 knowledge to legislators; the program was founded in response to a
12 request by a member of the United States Congress for an intern who
13 could assist his office with these matters, and it has since grown
14 to include numerous congressional offices as well as the United
15 States House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture, the
16 United States Department of Agriculture, and offices on the state
17 level during legislative years; approximately 800 students have
18 participated in semester-long internships; and

19 WHEREAS, The Public Policy Internship Program, established
20 in 1999, works with various colleges and departments to create an
21 interdisciplinary environment for comprehensive academic training,
22 research, and policy programming; interns in the nation's capital
23 and in Austin serve in a variety of settings that align with their
24 academic and professional goals; some 600 students have

1 participated in semester-long internships; and

2 WHEREAS, Led by director Stephanie McMillen, both internship
3 programs select their highly qualified and dedicated participants
4 through a rigorous application process; in addition to academic
5 achievement, students must demonstrate their potential to take full
6 advantage of the opportunities for scholarly and professional
7 development as well as the desire to serve our state and nation; and

8 WHEREAS, The 2015 Texas A&M University policy interns serving
9 in Austin are Angela Avila, Wayne Beckermann, Demeris Burritt,
10 Stephen Cain, Joshua Caniglia, Justin Cantu, William Carey, Erin
11 Carney, Katherine Diaz, Ainslie Ellis, Nicole ElMurr, Lauren
12 Felder, Marcus Garcia, Angelo Gonzalez, Taylor Hartmann, Miranda
13 Heck, Ashley Hielscher, Elin Isenhower, Ross Johnson, Jaret King,
14 Julia Lancaster, Andrew Lindinger, Kade Long, Madeline McLean,
15 Lauren Mehalic, Sarah Narvaiz, Carla Pelcastre, Zain Pleuthner,
16 Quinn Qian, Jami Sims, Molly Smith, Joshua Vasquez, Samantha
17 Wallace, Ke'Shantenal Wallace, and Vanisha Weatherspoon; and

18 WHEREAS, Through the years, the Agricultural and Natural
19 Resources Policy and Public Policy Internship Programs have helped
20 exceptional students deepen their understanding of governmental
21 operations while developing professional skills and networks, and
22 alumni have gone on to make vital contributions and assume
23 leadership roles in a variety of arenas; the outstanding young
24 people who are giving of their time and talents throughout this
25 legislative session can indeed take pride in their achievements and
26 service to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize the Texas A&M University Agricultural
2 and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program and the Public
3 Policy Internship Program and commend the current participants for
4 their diligence and commitment; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for the students as an expression of high regard from the
7 Texas House of Representatives.