R E S O L U T I O N

1   WHEREAS, Family farms and ranches are vital to the prosperity
2 of the Lone Star State, and the Vahlenkamp farm is indeed deserving
3 of recognition for 111 years of continuous operation; and
4   WHEREAS, The 272-acre Vahlenkamp farm is part of the Texas
5 Department of Agriculture Family Land Heritage Program, which
6 honors families who have owned and continuously operated a farm or
7 ranch for a century or more; and
8   WHEREAS, The farm was established in 1904 in eastern
9 Stonewall County, near Old Glory, by John Vahlenkamp, a German
10 immigrant; his grandson, Herbert Vahlenkamp, began leasing the land
11 from his grandfather in 1946, the same year that he married, and
12 Herbert and his wife, Gladys, became the owners of the farm in 1955;
13 and
14   WHEREAS, Able stewards of the land, Mr. and Mrs. Vahlenkamp
15 initially grew cotton, plowing the fields with the help of farm
16 animals and harvesting the crops by hand; today, they oversee the
17 production of wheat, hay, and cattle, and modern farm equipment
18 allows them to continue their active lifestyle after nearly seven
19 decades together; and
20   WHEREAS, In preserving their property as a working farm, the
21 Vahlenkamps have carried on their family's significant legacy, and
22 it is most fitting to honor them; now, therefore, be it
23   RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
24 Legislature hereby recognize the Vahlenkamp family for 111 years of

1 continuous operation of the family farm in Stonewall County and

2 extend to Herbert and Gladys Vahlenkamp sincere best wishes for the

3 future; and, be it further

4   RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

5 prepared for Mr. and Mrs. Vahlenkamp as an expression of high

6 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2253 was adopted by the House on May 21, 2015, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House