

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 2817

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2015 marks the 35th anniversary of the
2 founding of Young Conservatives of Texas, and the Texas Senate is
3 pleased to recognize this significant milestone in the
4 organization's history; and

5 WHEREAS, A group of 177 students met in Austin at the Stephen
6 F. Austin Hotel on Texas Independence Day, March 2, 1980, to
7 establish Young Conservatives of Texas; and

8 WHEREAS, A nonpartisan and independent youth organization,
9 Young Conservatives of Texas was founded to attract students who
10 believe in a conservative philosophy of government and to afford
11 those students the opportunity to participate effectively in the
12 political process; and

13 WHEREAS, YCT is dedicated to promoting its Statement of
14 Principles, including the beliefs that the Constitution was
15 instituted for the protection of God-given rights, that the
16 American system of Federalism, describing limited government and
17 state sovereignty, serves to protect those rights, that economic
18 freedom and the free enterprise system are essential to liberty,
19 and that the aim of American foreign policy should be the protection
20 of the freedom of the American people; and

21 WHEREAS, For three and a half decades, YCT has served as a
22 strong force on college campuses throughout the state, regularly
23 hosting speakers and events representing a wide range of
24 conservative thought; and

1 WHEREAS, The organization is well known for inspiring young
2 people in our state to become involved in politics, for maintaining
3 an active presence as a lobby at the Texas Legislature, and for
4 placing alumni in all levels of government and public policy,
5 including the Texas Legislature and Congress; and

6 WHEREAS, YCT also maintains a long running and respected set
7 of legislative ratings that assess the actions of members of the
8 Texas Legislature according to their adherence to conservative
9 principles; and

10 WHEREAS, The group successfully advocates for conservative
11 candidates during both primary and general elections, through block
12 walking, phone banks, straw polls, and contributions through its
13 political action committee; moreover, YCT was instrumental in the
14 election of both Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick and Attorney
15 General Ken Paxton during the past election cycle; and

16 WHEREAS, YCT has benefited from the dedicated leadership of
17 23 state chairmen: Steve Munisteri (1980), Gary Nelson (1981), Greg
18 Robertson (1982), Frank Reilly (1982-1986), Richard Munisteri
19 (1987), Steve Stockman (1987-1988), Paul Bartley (1988-1989),
20 Sharin Shafer (1990-1991), Scott Gaille (1991-1992), Andy Panos
21 (1992-1993), Shawn Roberts (1993), David Guenthner (1994), Robert
22 Johnson (1994-1996), Robert Means (1996-1997), Fred Tate
23 (1997-1999), Liz Farrell (1999), Brent Tantillo (2000), Chris Allen
24 (2001-2003), David Rushing (2003-2005), Randy Samuelson
25 (2005-2006), David White (2006-2009), Elizabeth White (2009-2011),
26 and Jeff Morris (2011-Present); and

27 WHEREAS, YCT has many notable alumni, including former

1 Republican Party of Texas Chairman Steve Munisteri, U.S. Senator
2 Rand Paul, U.S. Congressman Jeb Hensarling, and former U.S.
3 Congressman Steve Stockman; and

4 WHEREAS, The members of Young Conservatives of Texas have
5 consistently worked hard to promote the conservative principles in
6 which they believe, and they have contributed their time and energy
7 to many political campaigns; on March 2, 2015, they celebrated
8 their group's numerous achievements during the past three and a
9 half decades; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 84th Texas Legislature
11 hereby commemorate the 35th anniversary of Young Conservatives of
12 Texas and extend to its members sincere best wishes for the future;
13 and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas Senate.