

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Ian McKenna, an eighth grader at Kealing Middle
2 School, has made a positive difference in his community through his
3 efforts to address hunger in the Austin area; and

4 WHEREAS, This outstanding young Texan was inspired to perform
5 his first act of philanthropy back in 2012; his sister Addison told
6 him about a first-grade classmate of hers who didn't receive
7 presents from Santa because of her family's financial difficulties,
8 and Ian decided to help; on Christmas morning, he and his family
9 showed up at the girl's door with a trunk full of toys and food for
10 her family; and

11 WHEREAS, Ian soon discovered that some of his fellow students
12 were going hungry on a daily basis; in March 2013, he started a
13 garden at Oak Hill Elementary, making it available to anyone who
14 wanted to use it; he later built a second garden at Sunset Valley
15 Elementary, and with the support of a grant from the nonprofit
16 Katie's Krops, he created a third garden in his own backyard,
17 cultivating a variety of vegetables, including tomatoes, sweet
18 potatoes, okra, cauliflower, and broccoli; in the first year, he
19 harvested 750 pounds of produce and donated it directly to families
20 in need and to such organizations as the Central Texas Food Bank;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Desiring to do more, Ian decided to organize a
23 dinner to raise awareness of the hunger many Americans face; held at
24 El Buen Samaritano on January 21, 2017, the dinner featured

1 vegetables from Ian's garden as well as food donated by Keep Austin
2 Fed and Trader Joe's; the popular event drew hundreds of attendees
3 from all around Austin, including elected officials; and

4 WHEREAS, Texas is fortunate to have passionate and engaged
5 residents like Ian McKenna, whose history of civic involvement,
6 remarkable for someone of any age, serves as an inspiration to all
7 who know him; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
9 Legislature hereby commend Ian McKenna for his invaluable
10 contributions to the community and extend to him sincere best
11 wishes for continued success with his important work; and, be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Ian as an expression of high regard by the Texas House
15 of Representatives.

Workman

H.R. No. 587

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 587 was adopted by the House on March 2, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House