

By: Bernal

H.R. No. 1949

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Teens in the Driver Seat program is marking the
2 15th anniversary of its founding in May 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, Launched in 2002 by the Texas A&M Transportation
4 Institute, with sponsorship from the Texas Department of
5 Transportation and State Farm Insurance, Teens in the Driver Seat
6 seeks to address the issue of motor vehicle crashes as the leading
7 cause of death for young people in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, Each year, thousands of teenagers nationwide,
9 including hundreds in Texas, are killed in vehicle collisions, and
10 many times that number sustain serious injuries; TDS works to
11 empower teen drivers and passengers to speak out about unsafe
12 driving behaviors and to educate their peers, families, and
13 communities on seat belt safety, speeding, and impaired, drowsy,
14 and distracted driving; the nonprofit program also maintains a Teen
15 Advisory Board, whose members regularly engage in such activities
16 as traffic safety fairs, speaker assemblies, grassroots on-campus
17 outreach, and the annual Teen Driver Safety Summit; and

18 WHEREAS, TDS has been implemented in nearly 1,000 junior high
19 and high schools in Texas, and it has served more than 1.3 million
20 students across the country; moreover, it has been cited as a
21 leading contributor to the recent decline in fatal crashes
22 involving young drivers in the Lone Star State; the program has won
23 numerous awards, and it has been honored four times as a best
24 practices model by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the

1 Governors Highway Safety Association, and the National Safety
2 Council; and

3 WHEREAS, For the past decade and a half, Teens in the Driver
4 Seat has played a vital role in addressing one of the most urgent
5 safety and public health issues facing our state and nation, and it
6 is indeed worthy of recognition for the positive impact it has had
7 on countless young lives; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Teens in
10 the Driver Seat program and extend to all those associated with the
11 initiative sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
12 further

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