

By: Springer

H.R. No. 2102

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Garrett Gatlin has made valuable contributions to  
2 the Graham High School Rocketeer Steers team, which placed third in  
3 the StellarXplorers III National High School Space Challenge held  
4 in Colorado April 6-8, 2017; and

5           WHEREAS, Established by the Air Force Association,  
6 StellarXplorers helps promote student engagement in science,  
7 technology, engineering, and mathematics through a challenging  
8 space-system design competition; the contest began in October 2016  
9 with more than 130 teams registered from 30 states and 2 overseas  
10 locations, and Graham High School advanced to the national event  
11 after outstanding showings in the qualifying and semifinals rounds;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, In the finals, the squad faced off against nine  
14 other teams, completing an exercise that involved meeting a set of  
15 space-mission requirements; the Rocketeer Steers had eight hours to  
16 define an optimal satellite orbit, select spacecraft components,  
17 and choose rocket boosters, and the next day, they presented a  
18 briefing about their solution to a panel of expert judges; and

19           WHEREAS, With his team's third-place finish, Mr. Gatlin  
20 received an educational grant sponsored by the U.S. Air Force STEM  
21 Program and the United Launch Alliance; after graduating in May  
22 2017, he plans to attend Texas Tech University and study  
23 psychology; and

24           WHEREAS, Through his fine performance on the national stage,

1 this notable young Texan has garnered the respect of his classmates  
2 and fellow competitors, and the confidence, skills, and experience  
3 he has gained in the StellarXplorers program will be of great use to  
4 him in his future endeavors; now, therefore, be it

5         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Garrett Gatlin on placing third in  
7 the 2017 StellarXplorers III National High School Space Challenge  
8 as a member of the Graham High School Rocketeer Steers and extend to  
9 him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

10         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for Mr. Gatlin as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
12 House of Representatives.