

By: Springer

H.R. No. 2105

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The members of the Graham High School Rocketeer
2 Steers team distinguished themselves by placing third in the
3 StellarXplorers III National High School Space Challenge held in
4 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; with
19 their third-place finish, the members each received an educational
20 grant sponsored by the U.S. Air Force STEM Program and the United
21 Launch Alliance; and

22 WHEREAS, Benefiting from the guidance of team director
23 Michelle Lowery, the members of the Rocketeer Steers are Connor
24 Wolfe, Nicholas Saunders, Jonah Qualls, Smith Graham, and Garrett

1 Gatlin; and

2 WHEREAS, With their fine performance on the national stage,
3 these notable young Texans have garnered the respect of their
4 classmates and fellow competitors, and the confidence, skills, and
5 experience they have gained through the StellarXplorers program
6 will be of great use to them in their future endeavors; now,
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
9 Legislature hereby congratulate the members of the Graham High
10 School Rocketeer Steers on their third-place finish in the 2017
11 StellarXplorers III National High School Space Challenge and extend
12 to the squad's members and director sincere best wishes for the
13 future; and, be it further

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