

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 406

**WHEREAS**, The Cougar Band of Clark Middle School in Frisco has been selected to receive the 2016 Sudler Cup by the John Philip Sousa Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, Established in 1985, this prestigious accolade recognizes junior high and middle school bands that have demonstrated the highest standards of excellence in concert activities over a period of several years, receiving superior ratings at regional, statewide, and national competitions; and

**WHEREAS**, While there is no specific number of schools honored with the Sudler Cup each year, the Clark Middle School band holds the distinction of being the only ensemble in the nation to win the prize for 2016; prior to this latest honor, the group had racked up numerous University Interscholastic League Sweepstakes Awards, as well as National Wind Band Honors in the 2016 Mark of Excellence recorded music contest and recognition as the 2014 Texas Middle School 2C Honor Band, the highest praise attainable from the Texas Music Educators Association; moreover, hundreds of Cougar musicians have distinguished themselves at Texas Music Educators Association regional competition and at University Interscholastic League solo and ensemble events, while the band's directors have garnered special kudos from the association; and

**WHEREAS**, Under the leadership of director Ben Katz, the Clark Middle School Cougar Band has proven itself to be one of the premier middle school ensembles in the nation, and its members may take justifiable pride in this notable accomplishment; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby congratulate the Clark Middle School band on its receipt of the 2016 Sudler Cup from the John Philip Sousa Foundation and extend to all those associated with the group sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the band as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Taylor of Collin

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 13, 2017.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate