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By:  Israel H.C.R. No. 152

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Over the course of more than 75 years, the Bluebonnet Girls State Program, an initiative of the American Legion Auxiliary, has provided invaluable educational opportunities to the young women of our state; and

WHEREAS, The Girls State program was created to teach high school girls about the privileges and responsibilities of American citizenship and to acquaint them with the workings of our government through role-playing exercises; since its inception in 1941, the program has grown from 94 participants to more than 600; and

WHEREAS, Countless volunteers and supporters have contributed to the success of the Bluebonnet Girls State Program through the years; Frances Goff, who served as its volunteer director from 1952 to 1994, had a great deal of influence on the program, which under her leadership became a model for other Girls State initiatives across the country; a host of influential Texas women were Girls State citizens, including Governor Ann Richards, Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander, and Judge Bea Ann Smith of the 3rd Court of Appeals; and

WHEREAS, The Bluebonnet Girls State Program has offered a unique learning experience that has fostered civic awareness and engagement among many of our past, present, and future leaders, and the achievements of its alumnae have made our state even stronger and more prosperous; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby honor the Bluebonnet Girls State Program for its more than 75 years of service and extend to all those affiliated with the program sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the Bluebonnet Girls State Program as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.