

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The boys' track team of Valley High School in
2 Turkey, Texas, reached the pinnacle of success by winning the Class
3 1A state championship at the 2017 University Interscholastic League
4 Track & Field State Meet; and

5 WHEREAS, Joining the other top Texas high school athletes at
6 Mike A. Myers Stadium in Austin on May 11 and 12, the Patriots were
7 led in individual events by Jake Merrell, whose times of 9 minutes,
8 38.23 seconds, in the 3,200-meter run, 4 minutes, 23.79 seconds, in
9 the 1,600-meter run, and 1 minute, 54.1 seconds, in the 800-meter
10 run, earned him gold medals in each category; furthermore, fine
11 performances were turned in by Juan Villarreal in the 100-meter
12 dash and Adrian Espinoza in the 200-meter dash; and

13 WHEREAS, In the team events, Mr. Villarreal and Mr. Espinoza
14 combined forces with Jayton Smith and Dax Allen to clinch the gold
15 medal in the 4x200-meter relay with a time of 1 minute, 30.99
16 seconds, while the quartet of Mr. Villarreal, Mr. Smith,
17 Mr. Allen, and Tristen Schlueter completed the 4x400-meter relay in
18 3 minutes, 29.81 seconds, to win the silver medal; moreover,
19 Mr. Espinoza, Mr. Smith, Mr. Allen, and Joe Carrera contributed to
20 their team's overall points total with a fourth-place finish in the
21 4x100-meter relay; and

22 WHEREAS, Their dominant showing enabled the Patriots to best
23 the runner-up by 24 points, and they earned the distinction of
24 becoming the first track team in school history to win a state

1 crown; throughout the season, these talented student-athletes
2 benefited from the able guidance of head coach Brandon Smith; and

3 WHEREAS, The members of the 2017 Valley High boys' track team
4 excelled through skill, hard work, and an enduring commitment to
5 performing at the highest level, and they can look back with pride
6 at their exceptional achievements; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate the Valley High School boys' track
9 team on winning the 2017 UIL 1A state championship and extend to the
10 athletes, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for the future;
11 and, be it further

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

Springer

H.R. No. 863

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 863 was adopted by the House on April 5, 2019, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House