

By: Springer

H.R. No. 863

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.