

By: Kacal

H.R. No. 974

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Across the Lone Star State, an elite group of  
2 ranchers and farmers have received recognition as the 2017 and 2018  
3 winners of the Lone Star Land Steward Awards and the Leopold  
4 Conservation Awards; and

5 WHEREAS, Established in 1996 by the Texas Parks and Wildlife  
6 Department, the Lone Star Steward Awards celebrate excellence in  
7 private land conservation by recognizing landowners for their  
8 outstanding stewardship of our state's land, water, and wildlife  
9 resources; more than 225 Texas landowners have been recognized to  
10 date, and each year, the overall state winner is presented with the  
11 Leopold Conservation Award, which is sponsored by the Sand County  
12 Foundation; and

13 WHEREAS, The recipient of the Leopold Award in 2017 was the  
14 Dixon Water Foundation, owner of the Dixon Ranches in Parker,  
15 Cooke, and Presidio Counties; the 2017 Land Steward Award winners  
16 also included Mark Brown of Brown Ranch in Fayette County, Mike  
17 Harris of Harris Ranch in Uvalde and Kinney Counties, Kim Bergman  
18 and Pam Mabry Bergman of Three Mile Creek Ranch in Gillespie County,  
19 the Michaux family of Solana Ranch in Bell and Williamson Counties,  
20 Greg Grant of Arcadia in Shelby County, CEMEX USA and J. Austin  
21 Ranches of El Carmen Land and Conservation Company in Brewster  
22 County, and Rod and Mary Hensch of Wild Wings Ranch in Scurry County;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, In 2018, the Leopold Conservation Award went to

1 Rolanette and Berdon Lawrence of Laborcitas Creek Ranch in Brooks  
2 County, while the other 2018 Land Steward Award winners included  
3 Deborah Clark and Emry Birdwell of Birdwell and Clark Ranch in Clay  
4 County, Christopher Harte and William Harte of Spicewood Ranch in  
5 Burnet County, Nelson Roach of Couch Mountain in Camp County,  
6 Tamara and Justin Trail of Trail Ranch in Shackelford County, the  
7 Hughes-Sasser Partnership of Billingsley Ranch in Presidio and Jeff  
8 Davis Counties, and the Alum Creek Wildlife Management Association  
9 in Bastrop County; and

10 WHEREAS, The natural beauty and diverse ecologies of the Lone  
11 Star State depend greatly on careful stewardship by its landowners,  
12 and these conscientious and hardworking Texans are helping to  
13 preserve precious resources for future generations; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby congratulate the 2017 and 2018 recipients of the  
17 Lone Star Land Steward Awards and the Leopold Conservation Awards  
18 and extend to them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it  
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for each recipient as an expression of high regard by the  
22 Texas House of Representatives.