

By: Raney

H.R. No. 1395

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Twenty-three Texas A&M University students are  
2 providing valuable support to the 86th Texas Legislature while  
3 gaining experience in public service as members of the Agricultural  
4 and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program and the Public  
5 Policy Internship Program; and

6           WHEREAS, For nearly three decades, the Agricultural and  
7 Natural Resources Policy Internship Program has sent student  
8 interns to Austin and Washington, D.C., where they work on a wide  
9 array of issues; their strong background and interest in  
10 agriculture and natural resources allow them to offer specialized  
11 knowledge to legislators; the program was founded in response to a  
12 request by a member of the United States Congress for an intern who  
13 could assist his office with these matters, and it has since grown  
14 to include numerous congressional offices as well as the United  
15 States House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture, the  
16 United States Department of Agriculture, and offices on the state  
17 level during legislative years; approximately 1,000 students have  
18 participated in semester-long internships; and

19           WHEREAS, The Public Policy Internship Program, established  
20 in 1999, works with various colleges and departments to create an  
21 interdisciplinary environment for comprehensive academic training,  
22 research, and policy programming; interns in the nation's capital  
23 and in Austin serve in a variety of settings that align with their  
24 academic and professional goals; some 900 students have

1 participated in semester-long internships; and

2           WHEREAS, Led by director Stephanie Webb, both internship  
3 programs select their highly qualified and dedicated participants  
4 through a rigorous application process; in addition to academic  
5 achievement, students must demonstrate their potential to take full  
6 advantage of the opportunities for scholarly and professional  
7 development as well as the desire to serve our state and nation; and

8           WHEREAS, The 2019 Texas A&M University policy interns serving  
9 in Austin are Brandon Alaniz, Julia Awad, Grace Binger, Montana  
10 Cortez, Brittany Frazier, Spencer Krumholz, Koy Kunkel, Alexis  
11 Little, Alejandra Luna, Samantha Mares, Lindsey Moore, Andrea  
12 Nwachukwu, Tyler Roberts, Halee Sanderson, Lauren Savage, Erin  
13 Smith, Maggie Sullivan, Julia Szabuniewicz, Wesley Tanton, Sara  
14 Uddin, Noemi Valiente, Armando Vendrell-Velez, and Ashley Wilde;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, Through the years, the Agricultural and Natural  
17 Resources Policy and Public Policy Internship Programs have helped  
18 exceptional students deepen their understanding of governmental  
19 operations while developing professional skills and networks, and  
20 alumni have gone on to make vital contributions and assume  
21 leadership roles in a variety of arenas; the outstanding young  
22 people who are giving of their time and talents throughout this  
23 legislative session can indeed take pride in their achievements and  
24 service to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

25           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
26 Legislature hereby recognize the Texas A&M University Agricultural  
27 and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program and the Public

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1 Policy Internship Program and commend the current participants for  
2 their diligence and commitment; and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for the students as an expression of high regard from the  
5 Texas House of Representatives.