

By: Price

H.R. No. 2003

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2019 marks the 80th anniversary of Cal
2 Farley's Boys Ranch, a residential community near Amarillo that is
3 dedicated to bettering the lives of at-risk youth; and

4 WHEREAS, Cal Farley, a semiprofessional baseball player and
5 wrestler, founded the ranch on 120 acres of land in 1939 in hopes of
6 providing assistance to boys from the Amarillo area who came from
7 broken homes; by 1941, it had enrolled around two dozen residents,
8 and it grew rapidly as word traveled about the important work being
9 done by the organization; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1944, the Texas Legislature created the Boys
11 Ranch Independent School District, which encompasses four schools
12 that serve children from kindergarten through 12th grade; also
13 during the 1940s, the first Boys Ranch Rodeo was held, and it has
14 since grown into a beloved tradition that gives children the
15 opportunity to showcase their skills and compete in a range of
16 exciting rodeo activities; and

17 WHEREAS, Following the passing of Mr. Farley in 1967, other
18 dedicated individuals have carried on his legacy by striving to
19 instill the values of integrity, hard work, faith, and perseverance
20 in subsequent generations of young people; the ranch merged with
21 the organization Girlstown, U.S.A., in 1987, and it went on to
22 become coeducational in 1992 with the opening of the first girls
23 home on the campus; and

24 WHEREAS, Much has changed in the world since Boys Ranch

1 welcomed its first class, and the organization has continued to
2 adapt as experts have gained a better understanding of children's
3 neurological development; today, the ranch maintains a strong
4 emphasis on enabling young people to gain real-world experience
5 that will serve them well on their journeys to becoming
6 self-sufficient adults, and it likewise places a high priority on
7 encouraging healthy relationships between ranch residents and
8 their families; and

9 WHEREAS, The past few decades have witnessed the
10 establishment of new facilities to further the ranch's mission; in
11 2010, Boys Ranch celebrated the opening of an Alumni Independent
12 Living Center that includes transitional apartments for those
13 beginning life on their own; and

14 WHEREAS, For eight decades, Cal Farley's Boys Ranch has
15 provided young people with the guidance, structure, and support
16 that they need to realize a brighter future, and it is indeed a
17 pleasure to recognize the organization's exceptional achievements
18 during this milestone year; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
20 Legislature hereby honor Cal Farley's Boys Ranch on the occasion of
21 its 80th anniversary and extend to the ranch's leadership and staff
22 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Cal Farley's Boys Ranch as an expression of high regard
25 by the Texas House of Representatives.