

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 556

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Grace Neve Valdez for spearheading the Gifts for Good project that provided thousands of gifts and cards for the children in the Tornillo Emergency Immigration Influx Shelter at Christmas of 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Grace Valdez is a sixth-grade student and serves as the student body president at Russell Lee Elementary School in Austin; as part of her campaign platform, the young leader promised to reach out to the children in immigration detention facilities, and her efforts inspired citizens throughout the nation to join her cause; and

**WHEREAS**, With the help of her grandmother, Grace was able to enlist the support of local and state leaders and ultimately gain special permission for the children at the shelter to receive cards and soccer balls for the holiday season; she reached out to school administrators, her fellow students, and other school districts, and as word of her project spread, cards and gifts began to reach the facility from people across the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, As a result of Grace's efforts, more than 3,000 soccer balls and 5,000 personalized cards were distributed to the children at the Tornillo Emergency Immigration Influx Shelter on Christmas day; Grace's generous spirit has been a source of inspiration to thousands of individuals, and she is truly a shining example to all; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby recognize Grace Neve Valdez as a treasured citizen of the Lone Star State and commend her for leading the Gifts for Good drive on behalf of the vulnerable children in Tornillo; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Rodríguez

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the  
above Resolution was adopted by  
the Senate on April 10, 2019.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate