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By:  Johnson of Dallas H.R. No. 149

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Raveen Arora of Irving was one of the nominees for the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize, and this achievement truly merits special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Established by Alfred Nobel in 1895, the Nobel Peace Prize is presented each year to a person, persons, or organization that has worked for the promotion of peace and fraternity between nations; the first prize was awarded in 1901, and in 2021, there were 329 candidates from around the globe; and

WHEREAS, Raveen Arora was born in a refugee camp in the Punjab region of India in 1948, and he grew up poor in the city of Kolkata; around the age of seven, he met Mother Teresa when she visited his school, and at age 11, he met Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; after earning degrees in accounting, finance, and business management in India, he worked as a chartered accountant while also serving as an officer of the Lions Club and giving generously of his time to a number of charitable organizations, including the Missionaries of Charity founded by Mother Teresa; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Mr. Arora moved to Los Angeles and started a successful financial consultancy, and after retiring in 2002, he relocated to Tempe, Arizona, where he became involved in many philanthropic endeavors; he created India Plaza to rejuvenate a depressed part of the city and showcase a variety of Indian businesses, and he also served on the boards of numerous organizations, including United Food Bank, the Tempe Chamber of Commerce, the Tempe Community Council, Project Humanities at Arizona State University, and Sister Cities International; moreover, he spent countless hours distributing bottled water and meals to the homeless as well as providing financial assistance to local college students and recently arrived immigrants; he also traveled to more than 90 countries to deliver humanitarian aid; and

WHEREAS, In 2021, Mr. Arora moved to Irving to be close to his daughter and his grandchildren, and he continues to serve others through his Think Human global initiative, a grassroots organization which he established in 2016 to promote empathy, diversity, and inclusion; he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by Satish Lakhotia, the founder of an Indian service organization, and the nomination has received nearly 70 endorsements; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Raveen Arora has donated much of his time and energy to carrying out good works in his community and around the world, and in so doing, he has earned the high esteem of innumerable people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby congratulate Raveen Arora on his nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success with his important work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Arora as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.