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By:  Israel H.R. No. 581

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, From February 13-17, 2021, a historic winter storm swept across the state and brought significant snowfall, freezing rain, and sustained, below-freezing temperatures to the Central Texas area; and

WHEREAS, The winter conditions resulted in blackouts that impacted nearly 200,000 Austin Energy homes and more throughout the Travis County area, forcing many Texans to contend with freezing weather without heat or electricity; as ice accumulated on roadways, some area residents were unable to obtain food or make trips for other essential items, and the record-low temperatures also led to frozen or burst pipes that left many without running water; and

WHEREAS, During this unprecedented event, leaders and citizens of Central Texas stepped up to provide food, water, and other resources to community members in need; many of them were experiencing their own hardships at this time, and some braved dangerous road conditions in order to reach and render aid to their vulnerable neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Among those who distinguished themselves in the midst of this crisis were Megha Uppal and the members of the South Asians' International Volunteer Association, who delivered hot meals and coordinated relief efforts for Austin residents in need; and

WHEREAS, Winter Storm Uri was a natural disaster of historic magnitude for our state, and Central Texans are profoundly grateful for the caring individuals who went above and beyond during this challenging time for their community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby honor Megha Uppal and the members of the South Asians' International Volunteer Association for providing vital help to their neighbors during Winter Storm Uri and extend to them sincere appreciation for their hard work and selfless service; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Ms. Uppal and SAIVA as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.