

By: Raney

H.R. No. 720

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The administration, faculty, staff, and students of
2 the Texas A&M Health Science Center and the Texas A&M School of
3 Public Health have distinguished themselves in their response to
4 the COVID-19 pandemic, including the efforts they have undertaken
5 to track and combat the disease, to measure its impact on health
6 care systems, and to provide guidance to local and state
7 authorities on safety issues; and

8 WHEREAS, Over the past year, the Texas A&M Health Science
9 Center has played a key role in the statewide fight against COVID-19
10 through such measures as therapeutic research, contact tracing and
11 investigation, testing, modeling and spread prediction,
12 telemedicine services, emergency dental care, and vaccine
13 development and distribution; and

14 WHEREAS, Faculty from the Texas A&M School of Public Health
15 directed the activities of the university's COVID Investigation
16 Operations Center, an interagency partnership between the Texas A&M
17 Health Science Center and the Brazos County Health Department
18 designed to select, train, and manage contact tracers, case
19 investigators, and epidemiologists in order to better monitor the
20 situation on campus; in addition, faculty members shared vital
21 information about the pandemic with the public through the media,
22 and they worked with students to analyze previous disaster
23 responses, develop reports on their findings, and provide local and
24 state decision makers with weekly updates and predictions about the

1 trajectory of the pandemic; and

2 WHEREAS, As volunteers for the Department of State Health
3 Services Vulnerable Population Task Force, students at the School
4 of Public Health were responsible for gathering and analyzing data
5 on populations at highest risk of contracting COVID-19, including
6 nursing home residents and inmates; they were also charged with
7 communicating their data in a format easily understood by various
8 audiences; and

9 WHEREAS, The Texas A&M Health Science Center and the Texas
10 A&M School of Public Health performed admirable work to help our
11 state meet the challenges posed by a rapidly evolving health
12 crisis, and all those who were involved with these efforts are
13 deserving of our lasting gratitude for their ingenuity, resilience,
14 and commitment to protecting public health in and beyond their
15 community; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
17 Legislature hereby commend the administration, faculty, staff, and
18 students of the Texas A&M Health Science Center and the Texas A&M
19 School of Public Health for their service to the state during the
20 COVID-19 pandemic and extend to them sincere best wishes for
21 continued success with their important work; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for each institution as an expression of high regard by the
24 Texas House of Representatives.