

By: Dominguez

H.R. No. 1471

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The chess team of The University of Texas Rio Grande
2 Valley continued its tradition of excellence by winning the 2021
3 President's Cup tournament, claiming its third consecutive title in
4 this prestigious event; and

5 WHEREAS, Joining the other three top collegiate teams in the
6 country for the President's Cup virtual competition on April 3 and
7 4, the UTRGV players staged an impressive comeback, overtaking
8 Saint Louis University on the final day of the tournament to win the
9 championship; the "three-peat" triumph follows first-place cup
10 finishes in 2018 and 2019, with the 2020 event being cancelled due
11 to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

12 WHEREAS, The Vaqueros were paced by grandmaster Kamil Dragun,
13 who placed third in the individual scoring; grandmasters Mateusz
14 Bartel, Hovhannes Gabuzyan, and Vladimir Belous also contributed to
15 the team's point total, finishing fifth, sixth, and seventh,
16 respectively; the team also received valuable contributions
17 throughout the year from the other members of the roster: Vladimir
18 Fedoseev, Sanan Syugirov, Ildar Khayrullin, Irakli Beradze, Ulvi
19 Bajarani, Felix Ynojosa, Yannick Rajesh Kambrath, and Askar
20 Nurbekov; these accomplished players benefited from the leadership
21 and support of head coach Bartlomiej Maciejka, associate dean of
22 students Douglas Stoves, and program manager Aleksander Mista; and

23 WHEREAS, The 2020-2021 season also marked the first time
24 UTRGV sent its women's players into competition; the individuals

1 who proudly represented their school included Yuliia Osmak, Alicja
2 Sliwicka, Julia Antolak, Ana Shamatava, Lauren Tovias, and Lorena
3 Garcia Ramon; and

4 WHEREAS, Through the skill, hard work, and unwavering
5 determination of its members, the UTRGV chess program has
6 established itself as one of the most successful in the nation, and
7 all those associated with the team are to be commended for their
8 achievements; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
10 Legislature hereby congratulate The University of Texas Rio Grande
11 Valley chess team on winning the 2021 President's Cup tournament
12 and extend to the players and staff sincere best wishes for the
13 future; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas
16 House of Representatives.