

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas takes pleasure in recognizing Saint Mary's University on the inaugural year of its newly created legislative internship program and in commending the exemplary students who are this year's participants; and

WHEREAS, The Frank Madla, Jr., and Irma Rangel Legislative Internship Program provides an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students who are interested in the legislative process or who wish to pursue a career in state policy to experience work in a legislative environment through hands-on participation; and

WHEREAS, The internship program is named for two of the university's alumni who worked their way to greatness from modest beginnings; both the late Honorable Frank Madla, Jr., and the late Honorable Irma Rangel had a significant impact on San Antonio and South Texas through their outstanding service in the Texas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Senator Madla served for 20 years as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, where he was an outspoken advocate for health care and education, and during his 13-year tenure in the Senate, he was honored repeatedly for his service to the state; his accolades include Texas Medicine's Best Legislator Award; and

WHEREAS, Representative Rangel was the first Mexican American woman elected to the Texas Legislature, where she went on

1 to serve for 26 years; she is noted for her exceptional work as a  
2 proponent of higher education and of equal rights for minorities  
3 and the poor; she was the recipient of multiple honors for her  
4 pioneering service, including induction into the Texas Women's Hall  
5 of Fame in 1994; and

6       WHEREAS, The internship program is designed to inspire  
7 students to follow in the footsteps of such legends; it gives  
8 participants insight into the legislative process and challenges  
9 them to make a difference in their communities; the admission  
10 standards are high, and the students selected must commit to  
11 working in Austin for at least 40 hours per week while completing  
12 six credit hours of course work; and

13       WHEREAS, Participants are placed in legislative offices as  
14 staff members with responsibilities and duties ranging from  
15 assistant committee clerk to legislative policy analyst; they must  
16 develop a keen understanding not only of legislative policy, but of  
17 the inherent intricacies of the Texas Legislature as an entity; and

18       WHEREAS, The undergraduate students chosen as this year's  
19 interns are Andrea Chavez, in the office of Representative David  
20 Leibowitz; Carolina Hernandez and Sarah Linares, in the office of  
21 Representative Joaquin Castro; Mark Reyna, in the office of Senator  
22 Carlos Uresti; and Matthew Reyna, in the office of Senator John  
23 Carona; the graduate students are Ayed Ahbabi, in the office of  
24 Representative Roland Gutierrez; Saad Aldosari, in the office of  
25 Representative Tara Rios Ybarra; and Sherita Simmons, in the office  
26 of Senator Leticia Van de Putte; and

27       WHEREAS, These interns have received weekly on-site

1 classroom instruction and have become familiar with the inner  
2 workings of the Texas House of Representatives and Senate while  
3 learning how to research and draft legislation, analyze policy, and  
4 interact with constituents and the press; and

5 WHEREAS, The program benefits from the assistance and  
6 direction of Professor Arturo Vega, who serves as its on-campus  
7 coordinator, and David C. Courreges, who serves as the on-site  
8 adjunct professor; and

9 WHEREAS, Saint Mary's University is well known for its  
10 long-standing tradition of instilling in its students the spirit of  
11 public service, and its legislative internship program will be a  
12 valuable asset in preparing its graduates to take on leadership  
13 roles in their communities and in the governmental arena; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas  
16 hereby commend Saint Mary's University on implementing the Frank  
17 Madla, Jr., and Irma Rangel Legislative Internship Program and  
18 extend congratulations to this year's interns, who have  
19 distinguished themselves in their challenging roles; and, be it  
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared in honor  
22 of this exemplary program.

Rec  
the

S.C.R. No. 76

David Dewhurst  
President of the Senate

John Strawn  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 76 was adopted by the Senate on May 22, 2009.

Daisy Spaul  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 76 was adopted by the House on May 22, 2009.

Robert Kinney  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

19 JUN '09  
Date

RICK PERRY  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
2 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 19 2009

Colby Shuter III