

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Manuel M. Vela has been named vice president and
2 chief operating officer of the Texas A&M University Higher
3 Education Center at McAllen; and

4 WHEREAS, Now in its fifth year of operation, the Higher
5 Education Center at McAllen offers undergraduate programs in
6 agriculture economics, biomedical sciences, construction sciences,
7 education, human resource development, engineering, maritime
8 business administration, and public health; and

9 WHEREAS, As vice president and chief operating officer, Manny
10 Vela will oversee the university's efforts to develop the Higher
11 Education Center's infrastructure, increase its academic
12 offerings, and double its enrollment over the next five years;
13 moreover, he will help direct the Colonias Program, which focuses
14 on improving quality of life along the Texas-Mexico border; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Vela is currently president and chief executive
16 officer of Valley Baptist Health System, which he previously served
17 as senior vice president and chief legal officer; over the course of
18 his tenure, he has played an instrumental role in a number of major
19 corporate transactions, including the purchase of Brownsville
20 Medical Center in 2004 and a joint venture with Vanguard Health
21 Systems in 2011; and

22 WHEREAS, Through his leadership, expertise, and commitment
23 to excellence, Manny Vela has earned the respect and admiration of
24 his colleagues and peers, and he may indeed reflect with pride on

1 his accomplishments as he takes on the challenges and opportunities
2 of his new position; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
4 Legislature hereby congratulate Manuel M. Vela on his selection as
5 president and chief operating officer of the Texas A&M University
6 Higher Education Center at McAllen and extend to him sincere best
7 wishes for the future; and, be it further

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

Guerra

H.R. No. 1124

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1124 was adopted by the House on April 28, 2023, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House