

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Amarillo College is the co-recipient of the 2023
2 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence from the Aspen
3 Institute; and

4 WHEREAS, Awarded every two years, this prestigious accolade
5 recognizes institutions that have distinguished themselves in the
6 critical areas of teaching and learning, certificate and degree
7 completion, transfer and bachelor's degree attainment, workforce
8 success, and access for all students; and

9 WHEREAS, Honored with the Aspen Institute's Rising Star Award
10 in 2021, Amarillo College was selected as one of only two winners of
11 the 2023 Aspen Prize from a pool of more than 1,000 community
12 colleges nationwide; among its exemplary efforts, Amarillo College
13 developed the Culture of Caring initiative under the leadership of
14 president Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart; providing a wide range of
15 support to students, the program identifies and removes
16 poverty-related barriers and has played a major role in the
17 improvement of graduation, three-year completion, and transfer
18 rates; additionally, the college has established Business
19 Leadership Councils that help provide a pipeline for the regional
20 workforce, and it oversees a virtual health care plan that is
21 provided free of charge to students and their dependents; and

22 WHEREAS, Amarillo College has also been honored with the Star
23 Award from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; in
24 addition, it received its first perfect score during reaffirmation

1 of its accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and
2 Schools Commission on Colleges; and

3 WHEREAS, Through education innovation, a committed faculty
4 and staff, and a determination to open the doors of opportunity for
5 all students, Amarillo College has become the heart of its
6 rural-serving community; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate Amarillo College on receiving a
9 2023 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence from the Aspen
10 Institute and extend to all those associated with the college
11 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for Amarillo College as an expression of high regard by the
14 Texas House of Representatives.

Price

H.R. No. 2229

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2229 was adopted by the House on May 29, 2023, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House