

1-1 By: Corte (Senate Sponsor - Ogden) H.C.R. No. 12  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House July 21, 2003;  
1-3 July 22, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Infrastructure Development and Security; July 23, 2003, reported  
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; July 23, 2003,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-8 WHEREAS, In the Homeland Security Act of 2002, the United  
1-9 States Congress recognized the importance of a university-based,  
1-10 integrated approach to homeland security when it required the  
1-11 secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security to  
1-12 establish university-based centers for homeland security; and

1-13 WHEREAS, Texas colleges and universities are at the forefront  
1-14 of research on issues pertaining to homeland security, including  
1-15 emergency response, food safety, transportation, border security,  
1-16 information protection, and counterterrorism and have joined  
1-17 together to maximize their abilities to meet state and national  
1-18 homeland security needs; and

1-19 WHEREAS, The selection criteria established by congress for  
1-20 university-based centers for homeland security include expertise  
1-21 in training of first responders; response to incidents involving  
1-22 weapons of mass destruction and biological warfare; emergency and  
1-23 diagnostic medical services; chemical, biological, radiological,  
1-24 and nuclear countermeasures and detection; animal and plant health  
1-25 and diagnostics; food safety; water and wastewater operations; port  
1-26 and waterway security; multi-modal transportation; information  
1-27 security and information engineering; engineering; educational  
1-28 outreach and technical assistance; border transportation and  
1-29 security; and public policy; these criteria are epitomized by the  
1-30 collective strengths of Texas colleges and universities; and

1-31 WHEREAS, Texas institutions of higher education have been  
1-32 leaders on issues related to homeland security long before  
1-33 September 11, 2001, due to Texas' unique possession of large  
1-34 agricultural, petrochemical, maritime, and telecommunications  
1-35 industries and major land and sea ports on the border with Mexico  
1-36 and on the Gulf of Mexico, all of which are vulnerable to terrorist  
1-37 attack; and

1-38 WHEREAS, The Homeland Security Act of 2002 required a  
1-39 university-based center or centers for homeland security to be  
1-40 established within one year of the date of enactment; now,  
1-41 therefore, be it

1-42 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas,  
1-43 1st Called Session, hereby respectfully urge United States  
1-44 Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge to recognize  
1-45 the expertise and resources represented by Texas colleges and  
1-46 universities by designating a university-based center for homeland  
1-47 security in the State of Texas; and, be it further

1-48 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
1-49 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
1-50 the secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security,  
1-51 and to all members of the Texas congressional delegation.

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