

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 176

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Don W. Brown is stepping down from his position as  
2 Texas commissioner of higher education, concluding a tenure that  
3 was highlighted by his vital role in the development, creation, and  
4 implementation of "Closing the Gaps by 2015"; and

5 WHEREAS, This far-reaching higher education plan benefits  
6 Texas and its citizens by promoting participation, success,  
7 excellence, and research among higher education students in Texas;  
8 the initiative also helps to close the gaps that exist in comparison  
9 with the performance of students from other states; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Brown received his bachelor's degree in  
11 government with honors from The University of Texas at Austin and he  
12 holds a master's degree and a Ph.D. in political science from the  
13 University of Wisconsin--Madison; he began his tenure with the  
14 state's higher education commission in 1983 as a program director  
15 and he has since served as assistant to the commissioner, assistant  
16 commissioner for special programs, and deputy commissioner; and

17 WHEREAS, Throughout his esteemed career with the commission,  
18 this dedicated public servant has demonstrated a commitment to  
19 improving cooperation and coordination between higher education  
20 and public education; his efforts have helped to ensure the success  
21 of the P-16 Council and related initiatives, leading to a brighter  
22 future for higher education in Texas; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Brown has overseen the development of many  
24 higher education innovations, including the Supply/Demand Pathway

1 for ensuring the most efficient use of the state's higher education  
2 resources and the Texas Public Education Information Resource for  
3 providing valuable public and higher education data for making  
4 effective decisions on education policies; and

5 WHEREAS, A man of great vision, he has worked diligently with  
6 higher education officials, public education officials, the  
7 business community, civic and community leaders, legislators and  
8 elected officials, and Texans from diverse backgrounds and locales,  
9 developing a consensus for closing the gaps in education throughout  
10 Texas; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Brown's unassuming manner, congenial  
12 temperament, and gracious style mask a steely resolve and a  
13 tenacious desire to help the state achieve the goals of the "Closing  
14 the Gaps" plan and to make a positive difference in the lives of the  
15 Lone Star State's students; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
17 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Don W. Brown for  
18 his longtime service with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating  
19 Board and extend to him best wishes for continued success and  
20 happiness in all his endeavors; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for Dr. Brown as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
23 House of Representatives.