

By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 104

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Of great importance to the success of the Texas  
2 educational system is the availability of teachers who are  
3 certified in the subject areas in which they provide school  
4 instruction; and

5           WHEREAS, In a state with large numbers of students of limited  
6 proficiency in English, there is a shortage of certified bilingual  
7 educators, a problem that is particularly evident in North Texas;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, The 2003 General Appropriations Act offers a  
10 potential means to address those state and regional shortages,  
11 through Section 58 of its special provisions relating to state  
12 agencies of higher education; and

13           WHEREAS, Section 58 authorizes the Texas Higher Education  
14 Coordinating Board to use not less than \$150,000 in each of the next  
15 two fiscal years to develop and operate a program at the University  
16 of North Texas System Center at Dallas to provide financial  
17 incentives to encourage enrollees in educator preparation programs  
18 to become certified to teach bilingual education, Spanish, or  
19 English as a second language; now, therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
21 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby direct the Texas Higher  
22 Education Coordinating Board to give a high priority to the  
23 incentive program under Section 58 of the General Appropriations  
24 Act special provisions relating to state agencies of higher

1 education and if at all possible to exercise its discretion to fund  
2 that program at the annual minimum levels specified by that Act;  
3 and, be it further

4       RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be  
5 forwarded to the commissioner of higher education and the chair of  
6 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as an official  
7 expression of legislative will and intent by the Texas House of  
8 Representatives.