

By: Pickett

H.R. No. 48

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), the  
2 second-oldest academic component in The University of Texas System,  
3 is celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2004; and

4           WHEREAS, Established as the Texas State School of Mines and  
5 Metallurgy by the Texas Legislature, the school opened its doors in  
6 1914 under the supervision of The University of Texas Board of  
7 Regents; after undergoing several name changes, it became Texas  
8 Western College in 1949 and UTEP in 1967; and

9           WHEREAS, Today's campus, with its unique Bhutanese-styled  
10 architecture, consists of 84 buildings, including the Sun Bowl  
11 Stadium, the Don Haskins Center, the Larry K. Durham Sports Center,  
12 a modern fine arts complex with galleries and recital halls, a  
13 state-of-the-art multimedia teaching and learning center, and a  
14 museum of natural and cultural history; and

15           WHEREAS, The largest Mexican-American-majority research  
16 university in the nation, UTEP has worked aggressively to achieve  
17 excellence on a variety of fronts; ranked among the top five  
18 research universities in Texas, it has also been recognized as an  
19 intensive doctoral/research university in the Carnegie  
20 Classification of Institutions of Higher Education; and

21           WHEREAS, UTEP's six academic colleges--business  
22 administration, education, engineering, health sciences, liberal  
23 arts, and science--offer 81 bachelor's, 72 master's, and 11  
24 doctoral degrees; the school has also joined with The University of

1 Texas (UT) Health Science Center at Houston and UT-Austin to  
2 provide cooperative programs in nursing, public health, border  
3 studies, library and information science, and pharmacy; and

4 WHEREAS, The barrier-breaking 1966 Texas Western basketball  
5 team, which was the first major college team to win an NCAA  
6 championship with an all-African-American starting five, stands as  
7 an enduring symbol of UTEP's dedication to diversity and  
8 excellence; and

9 WHEREAS, In the 90 years since its founding, UTEP has  
10 conferred more than 76,000 degrees; its current enrollment stands  
11 at over 18,000 students, 90 percent of them from the surrounding  
12 region and more than 2,200 of them from other countries; and

13 WHEREAS, The State of Texas remains steadfast in its enduring  
14 commitment to the continued growth of this outstanding institution  
15 and is proud to join with the school's supporters everywhere in  
16 celebrating UTEP's 90th anniversary; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
18 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby recognize April 2004 as  
19 UTEP Heritage Month in recognition of The University of Texas at El  
20 Paso's 90 years of achievement and in gratitude for its signal  
21 contributions to the development of El Paso and the Lone Star State.