

By: Seliger

S.C.R. No. 3

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center for its outstanding service for more than 50 years to the many patriotic Americans who have served in our nation's armed forces; and

WHEREAS, The Veterans Administration Medical Center in Big Spring is part of the West Texas Veterans Administration Health Care System, which serves an area encompassing 74,000 square miles in West Texas and Southeastern New Mexico; the estimated 62,000 veterans who reside in the area can be served at the medical center in Big Spring and at the system's six community-based outpatient clinics; construction and renovation to rebuild the center began in 1995; and

WHEREAS, The West Texas Veterans Health Care System is a tertiary care facility classified as a Clinical Referral Level 2 Facility; it is a teaching hospital and has 31 operating beds; comprehensive outpatient care is provided in the areas of medicine, surgery, psychiatry, physical medicine and rehabilitation, oncology, and dentistry; inpatient care is provided in medicine and extended care, with referrals to other Veterans Integrated Service Network 18 facilities and community services; during fiscal year 2003, 16,630 veterans were served through 115,226 outpatient visits and 1,167 inpatient episodes

of care; and

WHEREAS, The West Texas Veterans Administration Health Care System has active affiliations with Texas Tech University in Lubbock and Odessa, Howard College in Big Spring, Angelo State University in San Angelo, Scenic Mountain Medical Center in Big Spring, Midland College in Midland, and Amarillo Community College in Amarillo; these affiliations furnish valuable professional training to medical residents and interns who provide health care to the center's patients; and

WHEREAS, Through its central role in the West Texas Veterans Administration Health Care System, Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center is a critically important asset to the health care of thousands of veterans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas, 4th Called Session, hereby commend the Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center for providing the highest quality of medical treatment and care to some of our nation's most deserving citizens, our veterans; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for the medical center as an expression of esteem from the Texas Legislature.