

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 186

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Dr. Don W. Brown for his exemplary work as Texas Commissioner of Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown, who is stepping down from his position, played a vital role in the development, creation, and implementation of Closing the Gaps by 2015, a higher education plan that is benefiting Texas and its people tremendously by closing the gaps within Texas, and also in comparisons of Texas with other states, in participation, success, excellence, and research; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown began his tenure with the state's higher education agency as a staff member in 1983; he was appointed deputy commissioner in 1988 and commissioner of higher education in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown's special interest in improving cooperation and coordination between higher education and public education, and the valuable role he played to ensure the success of the P-16 Council and related efforts, continues to provide tremendous benefits for the state's future; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown oversaw the development of many higher education innovations, including the Supply/Demand Pathway for ensuring the most efficient use of the state's higher education resources and the Texas Public Education Information Resource for providing valuable public and higher education data for making effective decisions on education policies; and

WHEREAS, He worked diligently with higher education officials, public education officials, the business community, civic and other community leaders, legislators and other elected officials, and Texans from every background and region of the state to develop a wide consensus for closing the gaps in education throughout Texas; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown's unassuming manner, congenial temperament, and gracious style mask a steely resolve and a tenacious belief in helping the state achieve the goals of Closing the Gaps to make a difference in Texas and the lives of all Texans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby commend Dr. Don W. Brown for his outstanding service as Texas Commissioner of Higher Education and extend best wishes to him in his efforts to focus more of his time directly on closing the educational gaps that challenge Texas; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Dr. Brown as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Shapiro

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 17, 2004.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate