

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 602

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The cause of international education has no greater
2 champion than Dr. Joe W. Neal, whose efforts, extending over more
3 than 60 years, have enriched thousands of lives and fostered
4 innumerable ties of friendship and respect; and

5 WHEREAS, A nationally recognized leader in international
6 education, Dr. Neal earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral
7 degrees in government at The University of Texas at Austin (UT); in
8 1941, after receiving his M.A., he was appointed coordinator of
9 interamerican student activities for the UT Institute of Latin
10 American Studies; that assignment was followed by a stint with
11 Nelson Rockefeller's Office of the Coordinator of Interamerican
12 Affairs in Washington, D.C., and service with the U.S. Army during
13 World War II; and

14 WHEREAS, Discharged from the military with the rank of
15 colonel in 1946, he returned to UT to serve both in the classroom
16 and in administration; originally a lecturer in the Department of
17 Government, he retired from teaching in 1985 as professor emeritus
18 in the Department of Speech Communication; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1946 Dr. Neal accepted the directorship of what
20 was then UT's International Office, assuming responsibility for all
21 international students at the university; over the next four
22 decades he also became heavily involved in developing educational
23 programs abroad; among the myriad international projects he managed
24 were programs to retrain all of the English teachers in the Republic

1 of China, develop human resources in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,
2 and prepare Peace Corps volunteers for service in more than half a
3 dozen different countries; and

4 WHEREAS, After 42 years at its helm, Dr. Neal retired from the
5 Office of International Programs in 1988 to become president and
6 CEO of the recently established Texas International Education
7 Consortium (TIEC); comprising a number of public universities in
8 Texas, TIEC develops and implements international education
9 projects around the world; Dr. Neal led TIEC until 1996, when he
10 became president emeritus; and

11 WHEREAS, A cofounder of TIEC, Dr. Neal also helped to
12 establish the Association of International Education
13 Administrators, Texas Association of International Education
14 Administrators, and National Association for Foreign Student
15 Affairs; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to the extensive work he has
17 accomplished in a professional capacity, Dr. Neal has given
18 generously of his time and expertise to the volunteer organization
19 Partners of the Americas and its chapter in Texas; a former
20 president of the state affiliate, he has overseen that group's
21 projects in Mexico and Peru; and

22 WHEREAS, Locally, Dr. Neal was a driving force behind the
23 creation of the International Hospitality Council of Austin (IHCA),
24 which arranges professional development and hospitality programs
25 for visiting students, business leaders, and government
26 representatives; in tribute to Dr. Neal's extraordinary service in
27 behalf of international education, the IHCA has created a

1 scholarship in his honor, and it is presenting this award for the
2 first time on March 28, 2003, at the IHCA's Second Annual Consular
3 Ball; and

4 WHEREAS, Throughout his long and distinguished career, Joe
5 Neal has helped thousands of individuals from abroad to pursue
6 their dreams, while contributing immeasurably to the development of
7 priceless cross-cultural bonds and understanding; now, therefore,
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
10 Legislature hereby commend Dr. Joe W. Neal for his lifetime of
11 service to international education and extend to him its deep
12 appreciation for the innumerable friends his endeavors have gained
13 for the Lone Star State; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Dr. Neal as an expression of high regard by the Texas
16 House of Representatives.