

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 48

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Teach For America corps members serving in the independent school districts of Houston and the Rio Grande Valley; and

WHEREAS, Teach For America was founded by Wendy Kopp, who envisioned the program in her 1989 senior thesis at Princeton University; her innovative idea has grown into a nationwide program supported by President George W. Bush and President Bill Clinton, by community and educational leaders, and by corporations and foundations; and

WHEREAS, Teach For America places recent college graduates in two-year assignments as teachers in underresourced urban and rural schools in 18 areas around the country; and

WHEREAS, Currently over 315 recent graduates serve in Teach For America in Houston and the Rio Grande Valley, directly affecting the lives of more than 27,000 students from kindergarten to 12th grade; since 1991, more than 1,150 Teach For America corps members have contributed to the education of approximately 98,000 young Texans in our state's public schools; and

WHEREAS, Teach For America has been praised for providing excellent teachers, and corps members have been cited for closing the achievement gap between their students and students in more privileged areas; in addition, over 95 percent of school principals surveyed in the State of Texas have recently rated the corps members' overall impact on their schools as positive; and

WHEREAS, The welfare of the State of Texas depends greatly on developing a well-educated citizenry, and Teach For America corps members have made an extraordinarily important contribution to this goal through their exemplary work in our state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the Teach For America corps members serving in Houston and the Rio Grande Valley for their selfless dedication to educating Texas' greatest resource, its children; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Gallegos
Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 18, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate