

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 294

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to honor the Texas Foreign Language Association and to recognize March 3 through March 9, 2003, as National Foreign Language Week; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who know foreign languages learn to value and appreciate other people and other cultures, and they contribute a great deal to societal understanding throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Foreign Language Association sponsors a host of opportunities for teachers and students to gain or improve second-language skills, including annual conferences, scholarships, and the publication of a newsletter and a scholarly bulletin; the organization also recognizes outstanding teachers and community members who promote the teaching of foreign languages in our state's schools; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Foreign Language Association supports second-language acquisition for all students beginning at the elementary school level and continuing throughout the school years so that students may achieve higher levels of proficiency; and

WHEREAS, Bilingual and multilingual individuals are afforded greater work opportunities in the public and private sectors, including the Foreign Service, the military, and international businesses; and

WHEREAS, Foreign language acquisition by Americans of commonly taught and less commonly taught languages, including American Sign Language, Spanish, French, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian, is very important to our democratic society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the Texas Foreign Language Association for its strong support of foreign language study; and, be it further

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

Zaffirini

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 4, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate