

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 625

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Dr. Ernie W. Laurence, Sr., on the occasion of his retirement after 18 years of outstanding service as superintendent of the Hutto Independent School District; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Laurence earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Baylor University; he earned a doctoral degree from Texas A&M University in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Laurence began his career in the field of education as a teacher and a coach at Reicher Catholic High School in Waco in 1968; he subsequently taught with the Cameron and San Antonio school districts; and

WHEREAS, In 1976, Dr. Laurence assumed the position of assistant principal at Killeen High School, and he went on to serve the Killeen Independent School District as a middle school principal and as a director of certified personnel; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent of Hutto Independent School District since 1985, Dr. Laurence has been an effective leader and has been committed to meeting the needs of students in the Hutto schools; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Laurence takes great pride in two major achievements of Hutto schools under his leadership; first, no Hutto student has failed to graduate as a result of failing the state's mandated tests, including the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills examination; this accomplishment is one that only a few school districts in Texas can claim; second, 70 to 75 percent of all Hutto High School graduates pursue some form of higher education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Laurence has further served the field of education by his active participation in a number of professional organizations, such as the Texas Association of School Administrators, the Texas Association of Rural Schools, and the Alvarado Intervenors Committee; and

WHEREAS, The loyalty and dedication that Dr. Laurence has brought to his leadership of the Hutto school system has benefited the entire citizenry of the city, and his presence as superintendent of the Hutto Independent School District will be greatly missed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend Dr. Ernie W. Laurence, Sr., on his exemplary educational leadership and extend best wishes to him for the retirement years ahead; and, be it further

S.R. No. 625

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

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 15, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate