

By: Merritt

H.R. No. 751

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, President George W. Bush will address the nation on
2 the evening of Monday, May 15, 2006, to urge Congress to pass
3 comprehensive immigration reform legislation that secures our
4 borders, improves enforcement of immigration laws, meets the needs
5 of our economy, and upholds our highest values; and

6 WHEREAS, The President's plan for comprehensive immigration
7 reform includes three critical elements: securing the country's
8 borders; strengthening enforcement of immigration laws inside the
9 United States; and creating a temporary worker program that
10 provides a legal way to match willing foreign workers with willing
11 American employers; and

12 WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform legislation is
13 necessary to build on past successes in increasing the manpower,
14 technology, and infrastructure needed for border security; since
15 President Bush took office, funding for border security has
16 increased by 66 percent, and the U.S. Border Patrol has been
17 expanded by nearly 30 percent to more than 12,000 agents; and

18 WHEREAS, Similarly, Congress must provide additional
19 resources to strengthen enforcement of immigration laws; in 2005,
20 President Bush signed legislation to more than double the resources
21 dedicated to worksite enforcement, and his priorities include
22 holding businesses accountable and vigorously prosecuting document
23 forgery; and

24 WHEREAS, The temporary worker program proposed by President

1 Bush is vital to ensuring our national security; creating a
2 separate, legal channel for those entering the U.S. to perform
3 honest work would dramatically reduce the number of people
4 attempting to cross the border illegally and allow law enforcement
5 personnel to prioritize greater threats to our security such as
6 terrorists, drug dealers, and other criminals; and

7 WHEREAS, President Bush's comprehensive immigration reform
8 plan does not provide amnesty, reflecting the president's strong
9 belief that amnesty would encourage future waves of illegal
10 immigration, increase pressure on the border, and make it more
11 difficult for law enforcement to focus on those who mean us harm;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Texas shares 65 percent of the U.S. border with
14 Mexico, and our state would benefit greatly from President Bush's
15 plan to create an immigration system that is fairer, more
16 consistent, and more compassionate, and that safeguards our economy
17 and workforce; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
19 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby express its support for
20 President George W. Bush's comprehensive immigration reform plan.