

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 61**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Dr. Robert Krienke, president of Lamar Institute of Technology, who is retiring May 31, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Krienke began serving as president of Lamar Institute of Technology in 1994; the college received separate agency status in 1995 from Lamar University, which had overseen the technical institute for more than 60 years; and

**WHEREAS**, During Dr. Krienke's tenure, enrollment at the institute has doubled, and it is now the second-largest technical college in the state; seven new degree programs and 16 new certificates of completion were added for a total of 58 educational programs, and the college is noted for its 98 percent job placement rate for graduates; and

**WHEREAS**, In coordination with local industry leaders, the technical institute established a two-year degree program for process operators that has become a requirement for employment by many employers; the program, Process Operating Technology, has received international recognition; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Krienke earned a doctorate in educational administration from Baylor University, a master's degree in chemistry from The University of Texas, and a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Texas Lutheran College; he began his professional career in 1960 as a research chemist for Tracor, Incorporated; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1968, he became division chair of science at Texas State Technical College in Waco, and he was named president of the institution in 1977; he was promoted to vice chancellor of educational services for the Texas State Technical College System in 1989; he served as dean of technologies, sciences, and business at Palo Alto College in San Antonio before becoming president of Lamar Institute of Technology; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Krienke worked diligently to ensure the accreditation of Lamar Institute of Technology and garnered support from alumni and community and business leaders to create more than 30 endowments and other scholarship funds that award more than \$275,000 in grants annually to students; and

**WHEREAS**, The institute's alumni association recently honored Dr. Krienke with its first Friend of the LIT Alumni Association award for his many accomplishments as president, his contributions to the growth of the institution, and his support of the association since its creation in 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, Throughout his long and distinguished career, Dr. Robert Krienke has been a visionary leader who is renowned for his expertise and professionalism, and he leaves a legacy of excellence in education that will affect generations of students to come; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Dr. Robert Krienke for his outstanding contributions to Lamar Institute of Technology and the educational system of this state and extend to him best wishes for the retirement years ahead; and, be it further

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

Williams

---

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 27, 2006.

---

Secretary of the Senate

---

Member, Texas Senate