

1-1 By: Madla, Estes S.C.R. No. 17
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2005; March 30, 2005, read
1-3 first time and referred to Subcommittee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 19, 2005, reported favorably to Committee on Education;
1-5 April 25, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-6 Substitute from Committee on Education by the following vote:
1-7 Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 25, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-8 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.C.R. No. 17 By: West

1-9 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-10 WHEREAS, In recognition of both the direct and indirect
1-11 revenues that could be generated for the state by a robust wine
1-12 industry, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst charged the Senate
1-13 Committee on Intergovernmental Relations of the 78th Legislature to
1-14 study and make recommendations relating to the development of the
1-15 Texas wine industry, assess the impact of state and federal laws on
1-16 the shipment and delivery of wine, and make recommendations for
1-17 increasing the economic impact of the wine industry in Texas; and

1-18 WHEREAS, The Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations
1-19 found that Texas has all the elements necessary to be a competitive
1-20 force in the national and international wine industries; the Texas
1-21 wine industry could prove to be a stellar economic generator for the
1-22 state, and with the proper policies in place, the industry is
1-23 positioned to boom within the next five to 10 years; and

1-24 WHEREAS, Although progress has been made through the years,
1-25 insufficient funding and budget reductions for new and existing
1-26 education, training, and research hinder the development of the
1-27 industry; moreover, the lack of a consistent, coordinated, and
1-28 centralized effort among industry stakeholders and public policy
1-29 makers to develop appropriate programs and policies, to explore,
1-30 develop, and access relevant funding streams, and to communicate
1-31 concerns and needs to appropriate parties impedes the development
1-32 of this industry to its full potential; and

1-33 WHEREAS, It has been shown by the world's major wine
1-34 producing regions that investment in education and research creates
1-35 an unparalleled advantage; and

1-36 WHEREAS, Expansion of the Texas wine industry will require an
1-37 influx of professional talent and expertise, particularly in the
1-38 specialized fields of wine production and vineyard development; and

1-39 WHEREAS, Nationwide, only universities in California and
1-40 Washington offer four-year undergraduate degree programs in
1-41 viticulture or enology; and

1-42 WHEREAS, Testimony at the October 6, 2004, hearing of the
1-43 Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations indicated that
1-44 there are individuals and organizations ready, willing, and able to
1-45 assist with the development of viticulture and enology education
1-46 but that there is no specific undergraduate or graduate degree
1-47 program in which to vest their support; now, therefore, be it

1-48 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
1-49 hereby respectfully encourage Texas A&M University, Texas Tech
1-50 University, Grayson County College T. V. Munson Viticulture and
1-51 Enology Center, and other Texas institutions of higher education
1-52 offering education and research opportunities in viticulture and
1-53 enology to collaborate to develop a world-class education and
1-54 research program within the State of Texas; and, be it further

1-55 RESOLVED, That the efforts of this collaboration be reported
1-56 to the members of the legislature not later than the opening day of
1-57 the 80th Legislative Session; and, be it further

1-58 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an
1-59 official copy of this resolution to the chairman of the Texas Higher
1-60 Education Coordinating Board.

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