By: Lucio S.C.R. No. 30

1 CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Mexico is the United States' second-largest trading partner, and approximately 80 percent of all United States trade with Mexico, equivalent to \$230 billion in goods, travels over Texas highways; trade between the two countries has grown from \$81.5 billion in 1993 to \$232 billion in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mexico is Texas' number one trading partner and this relationship is an important factor in Texas' economic growth and prosperity; during the 1990s, the Texas economy generally outperformed the nation's economy, due in large part to the strength of the state's exports to Mexico; roughly one out of every 10 manufacturing jobs in Texas is tied to exports to Mexico and 44 percent of Texas' total exports are made to Mexico; and

WHEREAS, About 80 percent of all truck traffic between Mexico and the United States enters through a Texas border point of entry; between 1995 and 1999 trade through Texas ports by truck increased by 85 percent, exceeding \$106 billion a year; in 1999 about 4.4 million truck crossings were made through nine Texas ports and Laredo, the busiest port on the border, had 2.8 million commercial vehicle crossings; and

WHEREAS, Two-way commerce between Texas and Mexico has more than doubled since 1993, from \$100 billion to \$235 billion; over the last seven years, Texas has exported more than \$272 billion to Mexico, and in 2002 those exports accounted for six percent of the

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- 1 gross state product; in that same year exports to Mexico added \$73.2
- 2 billion in output, \$19.8 billion in earnings, and 745,000 jobs to
- 3 the Texas economy; now, therefore, be it
- 4 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
- 5 hereby urge the State of Texas to continue to pursue opportunities
- 6 to increase trade with Mexico by creating policies and programs
- 7 aimed at increasing trade, including improving communications and
- 8 cooperation, and by encouraging meetings and interactions among
- 9 federal, state, and local governments; and, be it further
- 10 RESOLVED, That the legislature hereby encourage the State of
- 11 Texas to strengthen ties with neighboring Mexican states and urge
- the Texas and Mexican authorities to develop a working plan to study
- 13 the flow of commerce and propose initiatives to mitigate delays at
- 14 border crossings between Mexico and Texas.

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- 1 Urging the State of Texas to continue to pursue increased trade with
- 2 Mexico and to develop a plan with Mexico to mitigate delays at
- 3 border crossings.