

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 356

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join The Texas Foreign Language Association and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages in recognizing the Year of Languages 2005; and

WHEREAS, Designating 2005 as The Year of Languages provides an opportunity to promote public awareness of the academic, social and economic benefits of studying languages and cultures from around the world; and

WHEREAS, With Texas' rich and diverse cultural heritage, Texans value the different languages spoken by our citizens, and as our state becomes more involved with the economics and cultures of the global community, it is more vital than ever to promote learning languages other than one's native language; and

WHEREAS, The study of languages improves a student's cognitive skills in other disciplines, such as mathematics and the sciences, and results in higher examination scores; proficiency in more than one language increases career opportunities and provides employers with a workforce with the necessary skills for an international marketplace; and

WHEREAS, Learning other languages fosters personal and intellectual growth in people of all ages and builds stronger ties among friends, neighbors, colleagues and employees; awareness of other languages and cultures increases understanding among peoples and strengthens America's security and position in the world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby commend The Texas Foreign Language Association and all involved with the promotion of world language studies for their hard work and proclaim 2005 as The Year of Languages in Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for The Texas Foreign Language Association.

Zaffirini, Barrientos, Shapiro

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 14, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate