

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1083

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the officials of the City of Presidio and Presidio County who are having ongoing discussions with state and federal officials in an effort to attain joint ownership of the Presidio International Bridge; and

WHEREAS, The Presidio International Bridge is located in both the United States and Mexico, and the portion in the United States is maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Commerce between the United States and Mexico has increased significantly in recent years, and it is anticipated that it will increase even more in the coming years; and

WHEREAS, The heightened traffic will require more funds for operating and maintaining the bridge; at the same time, the Presidio residents who live along the border have especially low incomes, resulting in a low tax base from which to draw funds for infrastructure and services; and

WHEREAS, Mexico charges a toll for traveling from Mexico to this country; federal law, however, currently prohibits toll charges for crossing the bridge from the United States into Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The proposed transference of ownership and authority would allow the City of Presidio and Presidio County to charge a toll, provide the needed funds for maintaining the bridge, and allow surplus funds to be used for the general welfare of the local residents; and

WHEREAS, The feasibility of the proposed conveyance of the Presidio International Bridge to the City and County of Presidio is indeed worthy of examination and assessment, and the Texas Senate encourages a quick resolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby commend the efforts of the representatives of the City and County of Presidio regarding the ownership of the Presidio International Bridge and extend appreciation to the Texas Department of Transportation for its assistance in facilitating this transaction; and, be it further

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

Madla

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 29, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate