

By: Swinford

H.C.R. No. 193

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, A porous Texas-Mexico border constitutes a
2 significant threat to the safety and security of all Texans, and
3 until the border is secure, the citizens of Texas will be vulnerable
4 to organized crime, violent gangs, and international terrorists;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Supported by former military commandos and
7 international gangs, powerful and ruthless Mexican criminal
8 organizations engage in kidnapping, torture, and murder to support
9 their drug trafficking and human smuggling operations along the
10 border; and

11 WHEREAS, While these activities affect every community in
12 Texas, residents on both sides of the border are victimized by the
13 criminal organizations that terrorize the entire region; and

14 WHEREAS, A vulnerable border also allows international
15 terrorist organizations such as al Qaeda to smuggle operatives into
16 the United States undetected; in a recent one-year period, 234
17 illegal aliens from countries with a known al Qaeda presence were
18 apprehended along the Texas-Mexico border; and

19 WHEREAS, These captures are particularly alarming given that
20 Texas is a uniquely desirable target for terrorism with the state's
21 heavily populated urban areas, critical infrastructure and key
22 resources, and nationally significant agricultural, financial, and
23 petrochemical industries; and

24 WHEREAS, Although protecting the sovereignty of the

1 Texas-Mexico border is a federal responsibility, the federal
2 government has been unwilling and unable to implement needed border
3 security measures; such inaction leaves Texans unprotected from
4 terrorist and criminal organizations that seek to cause harm to the
5 residents of the state; and

6 WHEREAS, The importance of a secure border to economic growth
7 and the quality of life in Texas has prompted the state to initiate
8 border security operations to significantly reduce terrorist
9 threats and violent crime in the region, and it is fitting that
10 these efforts receive the state's full support; now, therefore, be
11 it

12 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby declare that the current threat to public safety along the
14 Texas-Mexico border requires decisive action to protect all
15 residents of the state; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the legislature express support for ongoing
17 state-led border security operations to control the Texas-Mexico
18 border and ensure the safety of the people of Texas.