

By: Martinez

H.R. No. 1668

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Since its inception 14 years ago, South Texas
2 College has been offering residents of the lower Rio Grande Valley
3 an opportunity to expand their horizons through education; and

4 WHEREAS, Recognizing the need for a college in the area,
5 Mario Garcia, a political science professor at The University of
6 Texas-Pan American, and Roberto Gutierrez, a state representative
7 from McAllen, initiated efforts to explore the issue; and

8 WHEREAS, Created to serve residents of Hidalgo and Starr
9 Counties, South Texas Community College was established by an Act
10 of the Texas Legislature in 1993; through the years, the school has
11 grown from an enrollment of 1,000 to more than 17,000 students, and
12 from a faculty and staff of 267 to 1,664; originally one campus, the
13 college now has campuses in McAllen, Weslaco, and Rio Grande City,
14 as well as the Dr. Ramiro R. Casso Nursing and Allied Health Center
15 in McAllen and the Technology Center in south McAllen; and

16 WHEREAS, Renamed South Texas College in the fall of 2004, the
17 college is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and
18 Schools to award bachelor of applied technology, associate of arts,
19 associate of sciences, and associate of applied sciences degrees
20 and certificates; STC now offers 90 degree and certificate programs
21 in such fields as technology management, criminal justice, computer
22 information systems, and business administration; and

23 WHEREAS, In recent years STC has begun offering dual
24 enrollment programs in school districts throughout Hidalgo and

1 Starr Counties, allowing eligible high school students to take
2 college-level courses in medical sciences and engineering; it also
3 offers the Partnership for Workforce Training and Continuing
4 Education program, with weekend and evening courses, that allows
5 lifelong learners to upgrade skills, change careers, or seek
6 personal enrichment; and

7 WHEREAS, South Texas College has increased educational and
8 professional opportunities for many people in the Rio Grande
9 Valley, and its contributions indeed merit special commendation;
10 now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
12 Legislature hereby honor all those associated with South Texas
13 College for their commitment to academic achievement and extend to
14 them best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for South Texas College as an expression of high regard by
17 the Texas House of Representatives.