

1 increasing the state's share of public school funding reverses a
2 long-term trend of increasing reliance on local property taxes; and

3 WHEREAS, House Bill 1 calls for a reduction in school
4 district property tax bills in Texas by an estimated \$7 billion
5 annually in fiscal years 2008 and 2009; and

6 WHEREAS, House Bill 1, by providing a mechanism for
7 significantly reducing school district property taxes, makes home
8 ownership more affordable for Texas families; and

9 WHEREAS, Funding the school district property tax relief
10 mechanism provided by House Bill 1 is essential to the promotion of
11 long-term economic growth in Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 2, 80th Legislature, Regular Session,
13 2007, or similar legislation makes appropriations for the purpose
14 of implementing the school district property tax rate reduction
15 mechanism established by House Bill 1; and

16 WHEREAS, Appropriations made by Senate Bill 2 are separate
17 from and in addition to appropriations made by the general
18 appropriations bill, Senate Bill 1, 80th Legislature, Regular
19 Session, 2007, or similar legislation; and

20 WHEREAS, Appropriations made by the general appropriations
21 bill are subject to the constitutional spending limit for state tax
22 revenues not dedicated by the constitution, and appropriations made
23 from those sources in Senate Bill 1 or similar legislation are less
24 than the amount authorized by Section 22(a), Article VIII, Texas
25 Constitution; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Texas, That the
27 legislature finds that the existing need for lower school district

1 property taxes constitutes an emergency for the people of Texas;
2 and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature may appropriate state tax
4 revenues not dedicated by the Texas Constitution for the state
5 fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2009, in an amount not to exceed
6 \$14,191,100,000 more than the amount authorized by Section 22(a),
7 Article VIII, Texas Constitution, with \$14,191,100,000 being the
8 amount appropriated for the biennium by Senate Bill 2, 80th
9 Legislature, Regular Session, 2007, or similar legislation making
10 appropriations for the purpose of funding school district property
11 tax rate reductions in accordance with Section 42.2516, Education
12 Code, as added by House Bill 1 (Chapter 5, Acts of the 79th
13 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, 2006).