

By: Geren

H.R. No. 2946

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Successfully meeting the needs of the legislature  
2 over the course of a 140-day regular session is a challenging task  
3 taken on every two years by the staff of the legislative support  
4 agencies, including the Texas Legislative Council; and

5           WHEREAS, Each odd-numbered year, legislators travel to the  
6 Capitol from across the Lone Star State to represent their  
7 constituents, yet they must stay connected with the folks back home  
8 throughout their tenure in Austin; helping them to maintain that  
9 tie are the members of the council's information systems division,  
10 whose skilled technical services crew ensures that offices are  
11 equipped with needed PCs, printers, and software; before the  
12 session even began, these personnel installed or relocated  
13 equipment in 29 district offices and moved 129 Capitol offices; the  
14 division's Computer Support Center provides training designed to  
15 serve everyone from the most savvy client to those with little to no  
16 experience, and the division's technical support staff and CSC  
17 operators are standing by to help them all, ready to lend their  
18 expertise over the phone or to dispatch one of the council computer  
19 consultants to an office just in the nick of time; so far this  
20 session, the staff has answered approximately 23,000 calls and  
21 provided training to 93 percent more clients; others among the IS  
22 staff are at work developing and supporting such custom network and  
23 web applications as LMS, CMS, MSS, TLIS, and TLO to accomplish ever  
24 more diverse tasks; and

1           WHEREAS, The hardworking attorneys, legal assistants,  
2 editors, and support staff of the legal division are one by one  
3 helping to craft the proposed laws of the Lone Star State; to that  
4 end, legal staff members have produced some 10,600, or 32.5 percent  
5 more, bills and constitutional amendments and approximately  
6 12,800, or 21 percent more, amendments, substitutes, conference  
7 committee reports, and miscellaneous drafts; greatly contributing  
8 to the process are members of the division's legal editing team, who  
9 not only work on each draft produced by the agency but also perform  
10 a dual role by carrying out the engrossing and enrolling duties for  
11 the house; in that capacity, they have engrossed more than 1,300 and  
12 enrolled close to 560 house bills and constitutional amendments and  
13 over 2,500 house concurrent and simple resolutions, with the bulk  
14 of the end-of-session enrollment work still to come; and

15           WHEREAS, The research division of the TLC is composed of  
16 policy and statistical analysts, writers, webmasters, mapmakers,  
17 and database specialists; during the session, these multitasking  
18 staffers have spent their time handling a 25 percent increase in  
19 research, data, and map requests from the legislature and the  
20 public while also producing more than 600 senate amendment and  
21 conference committee side-by-side analyses in the waning days of  
22 the session, some 4,650 bill analyses for house committees, and  
23 approximately 4,700 policy, congratulatory, and memorial  
24 resolutions; they also update election and geographic databases and  
25 prepare other useful publications and develop websites to help new  
26 members and staff; and

27           WHEREAS, Supporting the legal and research divisions in their

1 efforts to meet the needs of the legislature are members of the  
2 TLC's document production staff; expertly producing approximately  
3 25,000, or 13.6 percent more, legislative drafts, as well as over  
4 11,000 house official printings and numerous other documents this  
5 session are the employees of the data transcription, graphics,  
6 proofreading, print shop, and final processing sections; also  
7 central to the mix is the document distribution section, which  
8 distributes more than 100,000 copies of bills and resolutions to  
9 the legislative community and the public; and

10 WHEREAS, None of these achievements would be possible were it  
11 not for the policy and planning division, whose personnel played a  
12 vital role in helping to hire the 130 extra employees needed agency  
13 wide to handle the workload of the session; and

14 WHEREAS, Tying it all together is the staff of the  
15 administration division, whose invaluable contributions keep all  
16 of the agency's divisions running smoothly during the session;  
17 composed of the executive team and the accounting and purchasing  
18 and staff services and facilities management personnel, the  
19 administration division seamlessly maintains the overall  
20 operations of the agency and manages the myriad everyday tasks  
21 required to ensure TLC staff with the resources they need to get the  
22 job done; and

23 WHEREAS, Council staff strive to bring to their duties  
24 accuracy, creativity, knowledge, and technical expertise, and they  
25 serve the legislature, and thereby the citizens of this state, to  
26 the very best of their abilities; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize the staff of the Texas Legislative  
2 Council for their efforts in behalf of the legislative branch of  
3 government and the Lone Star State; and, be it further

4       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
5 prepared for the staff of the council as an expression of high  
6 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.