

By: Pitts

H.R. No. 746

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas R. Norris of McGregor is retiring as
2 executive director of Education Service Center Region 12 in June
3 2011, concluding an outstanding tenure in education that has
4 spanned four decades; and

5 WHEREAS, A graduate of Columbia College, Dr. Norris earned
6 his master's and doctoral degrees in educational administration
7 from Baylor University; he worked as a teacher in Milford and Waco
8 before accepting further responsibility in such roles as assistant
9 principal at Travis Middle School in Temple and principal at La
10 Marque Junior High in La Marque; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Norris went on to serve as director of secondary
12 curriculum and instruction, assistant superintendent for secondary
13 operations, and interim superintendent of Round Rock ISD before
14 being named superintendent of the district in 1994; in that
15 position, he was responsible for 33 campuses, including 11 Texas
16 Blue Ribbon and 8 National Blue Ribbon Schools, and the district's
17 27,300 students; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1998, Dr. Norris joined the Region 12 Education
19 Service Center, where he has overseen the development of a
20 continuous improvement/performance excellence model; Region 12
21 encompasses 12 counties and serves 77 school districts and 13
22 charter schools; under Dr. Norris's leadership, the center has
23 increased services to customers and trained more than 48,000
24 participants in 2009-2010 alone; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Norris has shared his expertise as chair and
2 legislative chair of the Commissioner's Cabinet for Regional
3 Services, as a board member of the Greater Waco Community Education
4 Alliance and Academic Decathlon, and as a member of the Texas and
5 American Associations of School Administrators, Association for
6 Supervision and Curriculum Development, and Phi Delta Kappa; his
7 efforts have earned him a number of honors through the years,
8 including the title of Administrator of the Year from the Texas
9 Association of Journalism Educators; and

10 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has demonstrated a commitment to
11 excellence in all of his professional endeavors, and his hard work
12 and dedication have significantly benefited many schoolchildren
13 across the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Thomas R. Norris on his
16 retirement as executive director of Education Service Center Region
17 12 and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness;
18 and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Dr. Norris as an expression of high regard by the Texas
21 House of Representatives.