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RESOLUTION

- 1 WHEREAS, The Vision Academy of Excellence in the Edinburg
- 2 Consolidated Independent School District has helped 135
- 3 nontraditional students earn their high school diplomas since it
- 4 opened in January 2010; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Created by district superintendent Dr. Rene
- 6 Gutierrez, the Vision Academy of Excellence was founded to assist
- 7 students in mastering the competencies they need to graduate and to
- 8 provide an alternative for those whose schooling was interrupted;
- 9 as part of a "no excuses" philosophy, administrators utilize
- 10 district lists of students who have stopped attending class and
- 11 make home visits to inform those individuals of the Vision Academy
- 12 and how it can help them to earn needed course credits or to pass
- 13 state proficiency tests; and
- 14 WHEREAS, The second graduating class at the academy received
- 15 diplomas on January 27, 2011; 92 students, twice the number from the
- 16 previous year, fulfilled the graduation requirements despite the
- 17 challenges they faced; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Currently about 142 students are enrolled at the
- 19 school, ranging in age from 18 to 25, and nearly 40 percent have
- 20 children of their own; academy director Nelda Garza and her staff
- 21 collaborate with ECISD team parent staff, Communities in Schools,
- 22 Workforce Solutions, and the United Way to connect students to
- 23 child care and other resources; and
- 24 WHEREAS, The academy achieves positive results by fostering a

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- 1 personalized approach to education and by offering flexible hours
- 2 and scheduling and small class sizes; school district
- 3 administrators have applied for grants, including from the
- 4 organization Jobs for the Future, in hopes of increasing the number
- 5 of students the academy serves; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Public education is an endeavor in which all Texans
- 7 have a stake, and the dedicated work of the faculty and staff of the
- 8 Vision Academy of Excellence is changing many lives for the better;
- 9 now, therefore, be it
- 10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
- 11 Legislature hereby honor the Vision Academy of Excellence in the
- 12 Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District for helping
- 13 nontraditional students to graduate from high school and extend
- 14 sincere best wishes to all those associated with the campus for
- 15 continued success; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 17 prepared for the academy as an expression of high regard by the
- 18 Texas House of Representatives.

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	Speaker of the House
I certify that H.R. No. 770 was	adopted by the House on March 8,
2011, by a non-record vote.	

Chief Clerk of the House