

By: Sheffield

H.R. No. 1150

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, In the global economy of the 21st century, the  
2 fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)  
3 are of paramount importance, and the future prosperity of our state  
4 and nation depends on the availability of a highly educated  
5 workforce that is adept in these subjects; and

6           WHEREAS, Unfortunately, statistics show that young people in  
7 the United States are lagging behind their counterparts in other  
8 countries in these vital areas; currently, U.S. 12th graders are  
9 performing below the average of students from 21 other nations in  
10 math and science, and in the next decade 80 percent of all jobs will  
11 require skills in those disciplines; and

12           WHEREAS, Recognizing the significance of this issue, Time  
13 Warner Cable launched the Connect a Million Minds initiative in  
14 November 2009; this five-year program is designed to inspire  
15 students to develop the STEM skills they need to become the problem  
16 solvers of tomorrow; and

17           WHEREAS, Connect a Million Minds seeks to put young people in  
18 touch with after-school opportunities and resources that focus on  
19 STEM-related learning; as part of the effort, Time Warner Cable  
20 created the educational curriculum "Cracking the Codes in the  
21 Digital World" in 2010 to showcase digital technology, and it has  
22 already been used by thousands of middle school students across 28  
23 states; and

24           WHEREAS, The company is introducing a new hands-on,

1 interactive curriculum, "Cracking the Codes in the Wireless World,"  
2 during the week of April 4 through 8, 2011; based on national  
3 science standards, it is designed to allow middle school students  
4 to gain greater insight into wireless communication technology and  
5 promises to be a useful tool in getting them excited about STEM  
6 concepts; and

7 WHEREAS, By encouraging youth to develop a solid foundation  
8 of knowledge in science, technology, engineering, and math, Texans  
9 can help ensure that the Lone Star State is well positioned to meet  
10 the challenges and opportunities of the future, and the Connect a  
11 Million Minds program is an innovative means of meeting that vital  
12 goal; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
14 Legislature hereby recognize April 4 through 8, 2011, as Connect a  
15 Million Minds Week and urge all citizens to learn more about this  
16 worthwhile initiative.