

By: Van de Putte

S.C.R. No. 19

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to
3 recognize the Reach Out and Read program for its outstanding
4 efforts to ensure that young children are prepared to succeed in
5 school; and

6 WHEREAS, Reach Out and Read was developed by pediatricians
7 and early childhood educators to make literacy promotion a regular
8 part of pediatric checkups; and

9 WHEREAS, Studies have shown that exposure to books and
10 reading in the first years of life increases the probability of a
11 child's healthy development and success in school; approximately a
12 third of American children entering kindergarten lack the basic
13 language skills they need in order to learn to read, with children
14 living in poverty especially at risk; and

15 WHEREAS, Reach Out and Read addresses this problem by having
16 doctors and nurses go beyond traditional medical care to provide
17 parents with information on how to read to children at each
18 developmental stage; they further provide each young patient with
19 an age-appropriate book to take home, which serves to encourage
20 parents to make reading aloud a routine activity; and

21 WHEREAS, This exemplary program has been implemented in
22 nearly 250 clinics, hospitals, and military installations across
23 Texas and reaches more than 245,000 young Texans each year; it is
24 truly deserving of recognition for its record of success in

1 encouraging families to read together; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
3 hereby commend the doctors, educators, and parents who participate
4 in the Reach Out and Read program for their exemplary work in
5 helping prepare children to succeed in school and in life; and, be
6 it further

7 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for them
8 as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate and House of
9 Representatives.