By: Lucio

S.C.R. No. 33

1

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The United States government has erected a border 3 wall through urban and rural areas along the Rio Grande; the wall 4 cuts through the property of local residents, causing 5 inconvenience, hardship, and reduced productivity; and

6 WHEREAS, The border wall also disrupts natural habitats and 7 degrades the local environment, which has an adverse effect on the 8 quality of life of residents, particularly of residents who live 9 between the river and the wall; construction crews contributed to 10 this degradation by bulldozing orchards, draining lakes, and 11 grading over existing driveways and roads; and

12 WHEREAS, The border wall divides land granted by the King of 13 Spain to the families of landowners before the founding of the 14 United States of America; and

15 WHEREAS, Many local businesses depend on customers who live 16 near the river, and the border wall reduces the ability of customers 17 located between the river and the wall to reach these businesses, 18 which has an adverse effect on the local economy, especially in 19 Brownsville and nearby areas; and

20 WHEREAS, In and around Brownsville, the border wall cuts 21 through roads, backyards, agricultural fields, citrus groves, and 22 pastures for more than 21 miles; narrow gaps allow back-and-forth 23 access for vehicles and pedestrians, but the gaps are as much as a 24 mile apart; and

1

S.C.R. No. 33

1 WHEREAS, Texas has a long history of protecting private 2 property rights, including the principle of full compensation for 3 property taken through eminent domain; the issue of property rights 4 and compensation for diminished access to one's own property has 5 been the subject of early legislative action during the 82nd 6 Legislature; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas 8 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to offer just 9 compensation to landowners negatively affected by the erection of 10 the border wall, including compensation for the diminished value of 11 and access to their property and for easements over their property; 12 and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the United States Congress be respectfully urged to consider removal of the border wall in places where the border is already adequately guarded by the United States Border Patrol agents of the United States Customs and Border Protection Agency and other law enforcement agents; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to the Congress with the request that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

2