

By: Uresti

S.C.R. No. 4

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The United States of America is a nation of
2 immigrants; and

3 WHEREAS, The immigrant's story is woven into the social and
4 cultural fabric of this nation; and

5 WHEREAS, Our nation requires an immigration system that
6 provides for public safety, national security, economic
7 prosperity, and the well-being of all who live and work in the
8 United States; and

9 WHEREAS, The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 is
10 the last major piece of immigration legislation to be passed by the
11 United States Congress; that legislation and subsequent piecemeal
12 reforms fail to adequately address the challenges posed by
13 immigration today; and

14 WHEREAS, A January 2013 poll conducted by the Associated
15 Press shows that 62 percent of Americans support reform of the
16 immigration system; and

17 WHEREAS, There appears to be a renewed willingness in the
18 United States Congress to reform our immigration system; and

19 WHEREAS, An August 2009 report by the CATO Institute found
20 that immigration reform could lead to a \$180 billion gain for United
21 States households; and

22 WHEREAS, A June 2012 Fiscal Policy Institute report found
23 that immigrants owned 18 percent of all small businesses in the
24 United States in 2010, which was a higher percentage than the

1 immigrant share of the population or labor force; in addition,
2 immigrant-owned businesses employed 4.7 million people and had \$776
3 billion in receipts in 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy found
5 that undocumented immigrants contributed more than \$1.6 billion in
6 state and local taxes in 2010 alone; and

7 WHEREAS, A 2010 report by the Economic Policy Institute found
8 that immigration increased wages of native-born workers from 1994
9 to 2007; and

10 WHEREAS, A study by The Perryman Group found that Texas would
11 lose \$69.3 billion in economic activity, \$30.8 billion in gross
12 state product, and approximately 403,000 jobs if all undocumented
13 immigrants were removed from the state; and

14 WHEREAS, The 77th Legislature of the State of Texas granted
15 in-state tuition to undocumented immigrants, allowing over 22,000
16 students to realize their educational goals and contribute to the
17 Texas economy; and

18 WHEREAS, The United States requires secure borders to
19 maintain its integrity as a sovereign nation; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas,
21 1st Called Session, hereby urge the United States Congress to
22 thoughtfully and swiftly enact a comprehensive reform of our
23 immigration system that provides undocumented immigrants a clear
24 path to citizenship and promotes public safety, national security,
25 economic prosperity, and the well-being of all those living and
26 working in the United States; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official

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1 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
2 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
3 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
4 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
5 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
6 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.