

By: Coleman

H.C.R. No. 103

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Access to affordable health care is one of the most
2 critical issues facing our state and nation, and health care is the
3 largest and fastest growing industry in Texas, employing 1.3
4 million workers in more than 200 careers; and

5 WHEREAS, The University of Houston enrolls 11,000 students
6 and confers 1,800 degrees in 97 health-related degree programs
7 annually; the health sciences represent 27 percent of its
8 enrollment, 24 percent of its degrees awarded, and 23 percent of the
9 health degrees awarded in the region; and

10 WHEREAS, The university's annual research awards in the
11 health sciences total \$40.5 million, or 38 percent of total UH
12 research, and its annual royalty income from commercialized drugs
13 totals \$12 million; while treating over 30,000 patients, including
14 many who are indigent and uninsured, UH clinical programs in such
15 fields as optometry, pharmacy, clinical psychology, and social work
16 generate over \$3 million in revenue each year; and

17 WHEREAS, The university further distinguishes itself as a
18 member of the Texas Medical Center and has built numerous
19 productive collaborations with other member institutions; and

20 WHEREAS, Through its educational, research, clinical, and
21 community outreach programs, UH contributes to the advancement of
22 health care and the health sciences in the region and state; the
23 board of regents seeks to make an even greater positive impact, and
24 to this end, it has approved the creation of a health science center

1 at the university; and

2 WHEREAS, Organizing the university's health-related programs
3 as part of a health science center will improve its ability to
4 address regional and state health care needs and will spur
5 innovation in the delivery of health care and reduce disparity in
6 access to care; and

7 WHEREAS, Such a center will elevate the university's
8 visibility as a leader in the health sciences and further its Tier
9 One goals, and its creation will promote more efficient use of state
10 resources by maximizing opportunities for collaboration across the
11 entire university; and

12 WHEREAS, A University of Houston health science center will
13 offer significant benefits to the institution, the community, and
14 the state by enhancing the breadth, quality, and potential of
15 health-related programs; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
17 hereby express its support for the creation of a University of
18 Houston health science center by the UH System Board of Regents;
19 and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an
21 official copy of this resolution to the University of Houston
22 System Board of Regents.