

By: Branch

H.R. No. 23

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, William Powers, Jr., president of The University of
2 Texas at Austin, was elected vice chair of the Association of
3 American Universities in October 2012; and

4 WHEREAS, A graduate of Harvard Law School, Bill Powers is
5 recognized as a national leader in higher education as well as one
6 of the country's preeminent scholars in personal injury and
7 products liability; his career with The University of Texas dates
8 back to 1977, when he joined the faculty of the UT School of Law, and
9 he became dean of the school in 2000; during his six years in that
10 post, he demonstrated an outstanding ability to attract talented
11 faculty, to diversify the student body, and to build strong
12 relationships with alumni and lawmakers; and

13 WHEREAS, This respected administrator has served as the
14 president of UT since 2006, and in that capacity he has continued to
15 promote diversity on campus and has placed a strong emphasis on
16 strengthening the undergraduate core curriculum and on fostering
17 support for universities and colleges throughout Texas; under his
18 administration, UT has continued to build on its reputation as one
19 of the world's elite places of learning; and

20 WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous accolades, President
21 Powers holds the Hines H. Baker and Thelma Kelley Baker Chair in Law
22 at UT, and he is an inductee in the university's Academy of
23 Distinguished Teachers; in addition, he was named a co-recipient of
24 the prestigious John G. Fleming Memorial Prize for Torts

1 Scholarship in 2012; and

2 WHEREAS, With his election as vice chair of the Association
3 of American Universities, President Powers joins the leadership
4 team of an organization composed of 62 public and private research
5 universities; founded in 1900, the AAU focuses on such issues as
6 support for research, policy matters, and graduate and
7 undergraduate education and acts as a liaison between its member
8 universities and the federal government; and

9 WHEREAS, Bill Powers is an eloquent champion of higher
10 education, and the vision and commitment to excellence that he
11 brings to all of his endeavors will be of immense benefit in his
12 important new role with the AAU; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
14 Legislature hereby congratulate William Powers, Jr., of The
15 University of Texas at Austin on his election as vice chair of the
16 Association of American Universities and extend to him sincere best
17 wishes for a successful term; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for President Powers as an expression of high regard by the
20 Texas House of Representatives.