

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) will
2 celebrate its past accomplishments, showcase its present
3 strengths, and look forward to its future development throughout
4 2014 as it observes its centennial; and

5 WHEREAS, Established in 1914 with the support of local
6 residents and business owners, UTEP began as the Texas State School
7 of Mines and Metallurgy, a small mining school on the site of the
8 former El Paso Military Institute; in 1916, a fire destroyed the Old
9 Main building, and the school moved to its current location; at the
10 request of the wife of Dean S. H. Worrell, the new campus was
11 constructed to resemble fortresses in the Himalayan kingdom of
12 Bhutan, and it retains this distinctive style of architecture to
13 this day; and

14 WHEREAS, The university became the first branch in The
15 University of Texas System in 1919 and gradually began to encompass
16 additional areas of study; to better identify its status as a
17 regional university with an increasing number of liberal arts
18 programs, it was renamed Texas Western College in 1949; six years
19 later, it became the first public university in the state to
20 desegregate its undergraduate program; and

21 WHEREAS, A strong focus on athletics in the 1960s led to the
22 construction of the Sun Bowl stadium, home to the UTEP Miners
23 football team as well as the annual Sun Bowl game, and numerous
24 national championship wins in the decades that followed; perhaps

1 the most famous of these came in 1966, when the men's basketball
2 team faced the heavily favored Kentucky Wildcats; Coach Don Haskins
3 started an all-African American lineup, the first time any school
4 had done so in the finals, and the Miners went on to an upset 72-65
5 win; and

6 WHEREAS, Now looking to its 100th year, UTEP has seven
7 academic colleges and an enrollment of more than 22,600 students;
8 it is a nationally recognized research institution with
9 expenditures of nearly \$70 million annually to support a broad
10 array of studies in such areas as drug development, Hispanic health
11 disparities, nanotechnology, and space exploration; the Texas
12 Higher Education Coordinating Board has named it one of the state's
13 emerging Tier One universities, and it was designated as a minority
14 research center of excellence by the National Science Foundation
15 and as a doctoral/research intensive institution by the Carnegie
16 Foundation; and

17 WHEREAS, In addition, UTEP boasts a number of acclaimed
18 programs designed to equip students with the tools necessary to
19 succeed professionally; 90 percent of the graduates of its Law
20 School Preparation Institute are accepted to law school, a figure
21 well above the national average, and its Medical Professions
22 Institute has helped make it one of the top universities for Mexican
23 American graduates accepted to medical school; moreover, its
24 Executive MBA program attracts professionals from both sides of the
25 U.S.-Mexico border; and

26 WHEREAS, Over the course of an eventful century, The
27 University of Texas at El Paso has enriched the lives of countless

1 students while making impressive strides in research and academic
2 innovation, and in so doing, it has made a positive impact on the
3 Lone Star State and the world beyond; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
5 Legislature hereby honor The University of Texas at El Paso for its
6 10 decades of outstanding service and extend to the university's
7 administration, faculty, staff, students, and alumni sincere best
8 wishes for a successful and memorable centennial celebration; and,
9 be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for The University of Texas at El Paso as an expression of
12 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Marquez
Perry
Frullo

H.R. No. 307

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 307 was adopted by the House on
February 18, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House