

By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 1373

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Since its inception, the United States of America  
2 has been a nation of immigrants, and throughout its history,  
3 immigrants have played vital roles in all fields of endeavor,  
4 including education, health, commerce, defense, science, culture,  
5 and the arts; and

6           WHEREAS, Our country has long supported the assimilation of  
7 newcomers, but the current immigration system has grown complex and  
8 dysfunctional; today, an estimated 2.1 million undocumented youth  
9 reside in the United States, having entered the country as  
10 children; they recognize no other home, but their status deprives  
11 them of the opportunity to pursue an education or to otherwise  
12 contribute to American society; and

13           WHEREAS, In 2001, the Development, Relief, and Education for  
14 Alien Minors Act, better known as the DREAM Act, was introduced in  
15 the U.S. Congress to create a viable pathway to citizenship for  
16 certain individuals who grew up in the United States; this  
17 bipartisan legislation would require individuals who arrived in  
18 this country as undocumented minors to satisfy certain conditions,  
19 among them graduating from high school or earning a GED and  
20 attending college or serving in our country's armed forces; in  
21 addition, successful candidates for citizenship would have to  
22 demonstrate good moral character and pay appropriate fees; and

23           WHEREAS, Through its provisions, the DREAM Act would foster  
24 higher levels of education in the workforce, greatly benefiting a

1 broad range of employers, including business, health care,  
2 government, and the military; many young immigrants are also fluent  
3 in two or more languages, and these linguistic skills are extremely  
4 valuable in an increasingly globalized economy; according to some  
5 estimates, passage of the DREAM Act could boost the American  
6 economy anywhere from \$1.4 trillion to \$3.6 trillion in income over  
7 a 40-year period; and

8 WHEREAS, Americans from across the political spectrum have  
9 endorsed the DREAM Act, which would yield significant societal and  
10 economic benefits while promoting fundamental principles of  
11 fairness; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
13 Legislature hereby urge the United States Congress to pass the  
14 DREAM Act; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk forward official copies of  
16 this resolution to the president of the United States, to the  
17 president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of  
18 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the  
19 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that  
20 this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record  
21 as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.