

By: Coleman

H.C.R. No. 71

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 about one
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 about a quarter of the
8 school's enrollment as well as of its degrees awarded; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
16 hereby express its support for the creation of a University of
17 Houston health science center by the UH System Board of Regents;
18 and, be it further

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