

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 302

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud community members are gathering in Austin on
2 February 10, 2015, to celebrate South Texas Independent School
3 District Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Originally known as the Rio Grande Rehabilitation
5 District, the South Texas Independent School District was
6 established in 1964 to create further educational opportunities for
7 area youths with disabilities; in 1973, legislators broadened the
8 district's purpose to allow it to operate vocational magnet
9 schools, and as a result, STISD opened South Texas High School for
10 Health Professions in 1984 and the Science Academy of South Texas
11 five years later; the district established the Teacher Academy of
12 South Texas in 1993, subsequently renaming the school South Texas
13 Business, Education and Technology Academy to better reflect its
14 focus; over the following years, the magnet program continued to
15 expand with the addition of South Texas Academy for Medical
16 Professions and South Texas Preparatory Academy; and

17 WHEREAS, Currently encompassing five magnet schools in
18 Edinburg, San Benito, and Mercedes, STISD is the only all-magnet
19 district in the state; it serves more than 3,300 junior high and
20 high school students and maintains an open enrollment policy that
21 attracts interested and hardworking pupils from 28 school districts
22 in Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties, and it continues to
23 provide educational and occupational training for students with
24 special needs through its career and technology program; and

1 WHEREAS, The district's superintendent, Dr. Marla M. Guerra,
2 ably guides a staff of accomplished teachers, administrators, and
3 support personnel who are deeply committed to the success of young
4 people in the tri-county area; in 2014, their work was recognized
5 when the Texas Education Agency gave every campus in the district
6 the highest accountability rating and maximum number of distinction
7 designations available; and

8 WHEREAS, The faculty and staff of South Texas ISD continue to
9 look for new ways to help students achieve, lead, and contribute to
10 a changing world; to that end, the district's second middle school,
11 South Texas Academy of Rising Scholars, will open in the fall of
12 2015; and

13 WHEREAS, For more than half a century, the South Texas
14 Independent School District has dedicated itself to offering
15 students the best educational opportunities possible, and in so
16 doing, it has equipped several generations of Texans with the
17 knowledge and skills necessary to build a brighter future; now,
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 84th Texas Legislature
20 hereby recognize February 10, 2015, as South Texas Independent
21 School District Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those in
22 attendance sincere best wishes for an enjoyable visit to Austin;
23 and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for the district as an expression of high regard by the
26 Texas Senate.