

By: Kacal

H.R. No. 825

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Texas State Technical College is celebrating its  
2 50th anniversary in 2015, and the attainment of this milestone  
3 offers a fitting opportunity to celebrate this unique educational  
4 institution; and

5           WHEREAS, Created by Governor John Connally and the 59th Texas  
6 Legislature in April 1965, the James Connally Technical Institute  
7 of Texas A&M University was intended from the start to be, in the  
8 words of Governor Connally, "the most sophisticated  
9 technical-vocational institute in the country"; and

10           WHEREAS, Under the leadership of its first director, Dr. Roy  
11 Dugger, JCTI opened its first campus at the former James Connally  
12 Air Force Base in Waco, and in 1967, the institute opened a  
13 bilingual technical institute at the former Harlingen Air Force  
14 Base; and

15           WHEREAS, JCTI was made independent of Texas A&M in 1969 and  
16 renamed the Texas State Technical Institute; over the next two  
17 decades, the success of TSTI led to the creation of additional  
18 campuses in Amarillo, Sweetwater, McAllen, Abilene, Breckenridge,  
19 Brownwood, and Marshall; and

20           WHEREAS, In 1991, the Texas Legislature elevated the status  
21 of the campuses, designating them as two-year technical colleges  
22 with a new name, Texas State Technical College, and in 2013, the  
23 funding method for the TSTC System was placed on a "returned-value"  
24 basis, making it the first college system in the nation whose

1 funding depends entirely on student success; in the years since  
2 that change, TSTC has seen a 23 percent increase in student awards,  
3 and a 60 percent increase in first-year earnings for graduates; and

4       WHEREAS, Today, working in close collaboration with  
5 industry, government agencies, and other institutions of higher  
6 learning, the 11 locations of the TSTC System across the Lone Star  
7 State offer vocational students 124 associate degrees and 133  
8 certificate programs, preparing them for successful, well-paying  
9 careers through excellence in technical education; and

10       WHEREAS, During its first half-century, the TSTC System has  
11 produced nearly 100,000 graduates and truly lived up to the vision  
12 of its founders by becoming one of the most sophisticated technical  
13 and vocational institutions in the nation; now, therefore, be it

14       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
15 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of Texas State  
16 Technical College and extend to its administration, staff, and  
17 students sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it  
18 further

19       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for Texas State Technical College as an expression of high  
21 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.