

By: Muñoz, Jr.

H.R. No. 1135

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The South Texas College Dual Enrollment Academies
2 program was selected as a 2014 Examples of *Excelencia* finalist by
3 *Excelencia* in Education; and

4 WHEREAS, Headquartered in Washington, D.C., *Excelencia* in
5 Education is a national nonprofit organization that works to
6 accelerate Latino student success in higher education; the
7 organization's Examples of *Excelencia* initiative recognizes
8 programs around the country that effectively increase the
9 enrollment, performance, and graduation rates of Latino college
10 students; and

11 WHEREAS, One of 14 finalists for this prestigious honor, the
12 Dual Enrollment Academies program at South Texas College allows
13 hardworking high school students to earn an associate's degree in
14 two years by taking high school courses in the morning and dual
15 credit classes at the college in the afternoon; and

16 WHEREAS, The program got its start with the establishment of
17 the college's Medical Science Academy in 2005 and the Engineering
18 Academy in 2006; it continued to expand over the next several years
19 as the college added the Computer Science Academy, the Criminal
20 Justice Academy, and the School to Career Academy, which includes
21 specializations in both welding and electronic health records; and

22 WHEREAS, The faculty and staff of the Dual Enrollment
23 Academies further assist students in reaching their career goals
24 through seminars, counseling, mentorships, development workshops,

1 and volunteer opportunities in cooperation with area businesses and
2 industries; in addition, academy students have been offered more
3 than \$11.9 million in scholarships since 2008, and several have
4 received the Bill and Melinda Gates Millennium Scholarship; and

5 WHEREAS, By providing an innovative opportunity to pursue a
6 college education while still in high school, the Dual Enrollment
7 Academies program has helped many young Texans prepare themselves
8 for future success, and its selection as a finalist for the Examples
9 of *Excelencia* Award is indeed well deserved; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
11 Legislature hereby congratulate the South Texas College Dual
12 Enrollment Academies program on being named a 2014 Examples of
13 *Excelencia* finalist and commend the faculty, staff, and students of
14 the program for their dedicated efforts; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the program as an expression of high regard by the
17 Texas House of Representatives.