

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 563

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Texas State Technical College on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and to join citizens from across the state in celebrating April 22, 2015, as Texas State Technical College Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, This unique educational institution was created by the 59th Texas Legislature, and the original legislation that created the school was signed into law by Governor John Connally on April 22, 1965; and

WHEREAS, The James Connally Technical Institute of Texas A&M University was intended from the start to be, in the words of Governor Connally, "the most sophisticated technical-vocational institute in the country"; and

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

WHEREAS, The James Connally Technical Institute was made independent of Texas A&M University in 1969 and renamed the Texas State Technical Institute; over the next two decades, the success of the school led to the creation of additional campuses in Amarillo, Sweetwater, McAllen, Abilene, Breckenridge, Brownwood, and Marshall; and

WHEREAS, In 1991, the Texas Legislature elevated the status of the campuses, designating them as two-year technical colleges with a new name, Texas State Technical College, and in 2013, the funding method for the Texas State Technical College System was placed on a "returned-value" basis, making it the first college system in the nation whose funding depends entirely on student success; in the years since that change, Texas State Technical College has seen a 23 percent increase in student awards, and a 60 percent increase in first-year earnings for graduates; and

WHEREAS, Today, working in close collaboration with industry, government agencies, and other institutions of higher learning, the 11 locations of the Texas State Technical College System across the Lone Star State offer vocational students 124 associate degrees and 133 certificate programs and prepare students for successful, well-paying careers by maintaining a focus on excellence in technical education; and

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

S.R. No. 563

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 84th Legislature, hereby designate April 22, 2015, as Texas State Technical College Day at the State Capitol and extend to the college's administration, staff, and students sincere best wishes for a memorable 50th anniversary celebration; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Texas State Technical College as a memento of this special day.

Birdwell

Eltife
Fraser
Huffman

Kolkhorst
Lucio

Perry
Schwertner
Zaffirini

Patrick, President of the Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on April 14, 2015.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate