

By: Flynn

H.C.R. No. 52

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the federal government  
2 to fully maintain the security of the Texas-Mexico international  
3 border, but Washington has neglected its duty; and

4 WHEREAS, An unprotected border facilitates drug smuggling  
5 and human trafficking and opens the door to spillover violence from  
6 criminal cartels; moreover, the ease with which members of  
7 terrorist organizations can enter the country poses a grave threat  
8 to homeland security; and

9 WHEREAS, The federal government's failure to prevent illegal  
10 entry has shifted much of the responsibility to the State of Texas;  
11 consequently, budget writers must weigh the costs of border  
12 security against the expense of other state services; since January  
13 2013, Texas has spent a total of \$2.8 billion on border security,  
14 including \$463,000,000 to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice  
15 and \$416,000,000 to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Furthermore, in 2014, former governor Rick Perry  
18 transferred \$38,700,000 from a state law enforcement fund to pay  
19 for deploying additional Department of Public Safety officers and  
20 National Guard troops along the Texas-Mexico border; the cost  
21 incurred by DPS alone since 2013 totals more than \$1.4 billion; and

22 WHEREAS, The executive branch and the United States Congress  
23 have consistently delayed meaningful action on border security,  
24 forcing Texas to expend significant resources to keep the

1 international border with Mexico secure and placing an undue burden  
2 on the state's taxpayers; now, therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas  
4 hereby express its dissatisfaction with the federal government's  
5 inadequate efforts to secure the Texas-Mexico international  
6 border; and, be it further

7       RESOLVED, That the Congress of the United States be  
8 respectfully urged to reimburse the State of Texas in the amount of  
9 \$2.8 billion for bearing the financial burden of the federal  
10 government's responsibility to secure the Texas-Mexico  
11 international border from 2013 through 2016; and, be it further

12       RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
13 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
14 the president of the Senate and to the speaker of the House of  
15 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the  
16 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that  
17 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a  
18 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.