

By: Anchia

H.C.R. No. 103

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Since 1994, the North American Free Trade Agreement
2 has transformed economic relations among the United States, Mexico,
3 and Canada; and

4 WHEREAS, The accord has driven unprecedented integration
5 among the economies, helping to more than triple regional trade and
6 encouraging a dramatic rise in cross-border investment; economists
7 largely agree that NAFTA has enhanced prosperity in all three
8 countries, as regional trade increased sharply over the first two
9 decades, from roughly \$290 billion in 1993 to more than \$1.1
10 trillion in 2016; as many as 14 million U.S. jobs rely on this
11 trade; and

12 WHEREAS, The economic effects of NAFTA on Texas are
13 particularly profound, due to its proximity to Mexico, which is the
14 state's top export market; in 2015, exports from Texas to Mexico
15 totaled \$92.5 billion, and as of 2014, 382,000 Texas jobs depended
16 on cross-border trade; moreover, the availability of lower-priced
17 goods from Mexico has had a favorable influence on the state's cost
18 of living; and

19 WHEREAS, During the past election cycle, NAFTA was a frequent
20 political target, and its future is now uncertain; the Texas
21 economy would undergo major upheaval should the United States
22 withdraw from or renegotiate NAFTA, and it is vital that state
23 government explore the possible ramifications; now, therefore, be
24 it

1 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
2 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the House
3 of Representatives to create a joint interim committee to study the
4 impact of any proposals by the federal government to alter or
5 abrogate the North American Free Trade Agreement; and, be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
8 governed by such general rules and policies for joint interim
9 committees as the 85th Legislature may adopt.