

By: Hinojosa

H.R. No. 921

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The prosperity of Texas increasingly depends upon
2 highly educated and skilled workers, and six nonprofit workforce
3 development groups across the state have been greatly assisted in
4 their efforts by the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education Fund;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Established by the Texas Legislature in 2013, the
7 ACE fund provides matching monies to regional partnerships of
8 community organizations, employers, and community colleges, with
9 the goal of helping to break the link between poverty and
10 undereducation; and

11 WHEREAS, The six workforce development organizations that
12 have received ACE matching funds are Project QUEST in San Antonio,
13 the Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement in the Rio
14 Grande Valley, Project ARRIBA in El Paso, Capital IDEA of Central
15 Texas, Skill QUEST in Dallas, and Capital IDEA Houston; more than
16 12,000 Texans have embarked on new careers in health care,
17 technology, and the trades through education supported by those
18 groups; and

19 WHEREAS, Since 2014, thanks to the ACE matching funds, nearly
20 800 workers have started jobs in new industries at an average hourly
21 rate of \$20.66; this year alone, the six organizations are
22 supporting the career education of 2,482 low-income individuals,
23 nearly half of whom are receiving training because of aid from the
24 fund; for every dollar invested, the six groups return between

1 \$12.12 and \$26.10 to the community, taxpayers, and participants;
2 moreover, in Central Texas, the graduates of Capital IDEA send 70
3 percent of their children to college; and

4 WHEREAS, By augmenting the resources available to the six
5 participating workforce organizations, the ACE fund has improved
6 outcomes in developmental education, graduation rates, continuing
7 attendance in postsecondary institutions, and placement in
8 high-skill careers, and the staff and volunteers of those programs
9 may take great pride in helping the next generation of Texans
10 prepare for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
13 Legislature hereby honor Project QUEST, VIDA, Project ARRIBA,
14 Capital IDEA of Central Texas, Skill QUEST, and Capital IDEA
15 Houston for their commitment to strengthening the skills of Texas
16 workers and for their careful stewardship of the taxpayer dollars
17 entrusted to them by the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education
18 Fund; and, be it further

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