

By: Lucio

S.C.R. No. 22

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Trade between Texas and Mexico plays a vital role in  
2 the economic prosperity of the Lone Star State; and

3 WHEREAS, Each year, Texas sends about 36 percent of the  
4 state's total exports to Mexico, and in 2015, exports to Mexico  
5 totaled nearly \$92.5 million; goods exported to Mexico include  
6 computer and electronic products, petroleum and coal products,  
7 chemicals, machinery, and transportation equipment, all of which  
8 are produced by industries that supply hundreds of thousands of  
9 jobs to the Lone Star State; and

10 WHEREAS, Since the ratification of the North American Free  
11 Trade Agreement in 1994, the export of U.S. goods to Mexico has  
12 risen 325 percent, while imports into the United States from Mexico  
13 have increased 458 percent; in 2012, Americans spent \$277.5 billion  
14 for goods from Mexico, and Mexico is America's third-largest  
15 supplier of oil, after Canada and Saudi Arabia; additionally,  
16 nearly half of the tomatoes and two-thirds of the mangoes consumed  
17 in the United States come from Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, The importance of this trade to Texas border cities,  
19 including Brownsville, Hidalgo, Laredo, and El Paso, is tremendous,  
20 and disruption to international commerce would be economically  
21 devastating; by placing a priority on working with the natural  
22 landscape of the area and building barriers such as levees, the  
23 federal government could preserve the immeasurable benefits of the  
24 healthy trade environment while protecting the border; and

1           WHEREAS, Mexico is the largest trading partner of Texas and  
2 the third-largest of the United States, and it is imperative that  
3 our federal government take proactive steps to strengthen ties with  
4 Mexico and build bridges of economic opportunity that will benefit  
5 Texas and the entire nation; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas  
7 hereby urge the United States Congress to recognize the importance  
8 of trade between Texas and Mexico and foster international  
9 commerce; and, be it further

10          RESOLVED, That Congress and federal agencies focus border  
11 efforts on working within the natural landscape of the region  
12 instead of obstructing trade with a border wall; and, be it further

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