By: Estes, Creighton

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S.C.R. No. 35

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the federal government 3 to fully maintain the security of the Texas-Mexico international 4 border; and

5 WHEREAS, The federal government has neglected its duty to 6 fully maintain the security of the Texas-Mexico international 7 border; and

8 WHEREAS, An unprotected border facilitates drug smuggling 9 and human trafficking and opens the door to spillover violence from 10 criminal cartels; moreover, the ease with which members of 11 terrorist organizations can enter the country poses a grave threat 12 to homeland security; and

WHEREAS, The federal government's failure to prevent illegal 13 entry has shifted much of the responsibility to the State of Texas; 14 consequently, budget writers must weigh the costs of border 15 security against the expense of other state services; during the 16 17 2012-2013 fiscal biennium, Texas spent \$222,068,318 on border security operations, and in the 2014-2015 fiscal biennium, 18 \$467,872,482, and in the 2016-2017 fiscal biennium, \$800,038,429; 19 20 and

21 WHEREAS, The executive branch and the United States Congress 22 have consistently delayed meaningful action on border security, 23 forcing Texas to expend significant resources to keep the 24 international border with Mexico secure and placing an undue burden

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1 on the state's taxpayers; now, therefore, be it

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

6 RESOLVED, That the 85th Texas Legislature respectfully urge 7 the Congress of the United States to reimburse the State of Texas in 8 the amount of \$1,489,979,229 for bearing the financial burden of 9 the federal government's responsibility to secure the Texas-Mexico 10 international border from 2012 through 2017; and, be it further

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

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