

By: Burton

S.C.R. No. 39

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The amount of paperwork required by federal and  
2 state education agencies causes an undue burden on teachers,  
3 especially those in special education, whose time and efforts would  
4 be better spent focused on the needs of their students; and

5           WHEREAS, Countless teachers pursue a career in education  
6 because they want to make a meaningful difference in the lives of  
7 children; federal requirements, however, impede that worthwhile  
8 goal by overwhelming educators who are working hard to create  
9 lesson plans, grade assignments, and give individualized attention  
10 to pupils and their parents; by adding unmanageable and often  
11 redundant paperwork to already overloaded schedules, the  
12 government creates a disincentive for teachers to remain in their  
13 chosen field; and

14           WHEREAS, The IDEA Paperwork Reduction Act of 2002, which the  
15 United States Congress failed to pass, aimed to reduce overall  
16 paperwork for teachers by more than 50 percent by eliminating  
17 redundancies between federal and state agencies and using  
18 technology to create a more streamlined process; these proposals  
19 are worthy of reconsideration in order to improve the inefficient  
20 and onerous system currently in place; and

21           WHEREAS, Our best educators serve as role models, motivators,  
22 listeners, and mentors, and it is incumbent on the government to  
23 promote efficiency and quality in our education system by  
24 eliminating unnecessary paperwork and allowing teachers to focus on

1 their students; now, therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas  
3 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to reduce the  
4 amount of paperwork required of teachers by federal law; and, be it  
5 further

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