

By: Bonnen of Galveston

H.C.R. No. 138

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Setting aside state funds for research into the
2 causes of and cures for degenerative and debilitating brain and
3 nervous conditions would make a difference in the lives of
4 countless Texans; and

5 WHEREAS, More than one million adults in the United States
6 are diagnosed annually with Alzheimer's disease or another
7 degenerative and debilitating brain and nervous condition, and many
8 of those affected live in Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, Texas ranks second in the nation in the number of
10 deaths from Alzheimer's disease and fourth in the nation in the
11 number of Alzheimer's cases; 380,000 Texans over age 65 have
12 Alzheimer's disease, according to the Texas Council on Alzheimer's
13 Disease and Related Disorders, which advises the Department of
14 State Health Services on needed action for the benefit of Texans
15 with Alzheimer's disease; and

16 WHEREAS, The Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related
17 Disorders believes that research into the causes of and cures for
18 Alzheimer's disease is imperative because the disease will become
19 more prevalent as the population ages, exacting huge human and
20 economic burdens on citizens and resources; the council notes in
21 its 2018 report that a new person develops Alzheimer's disease
22 every 65 seconds and that this rate will increase to one new case
23 every 33 seconds by 2050; and

24 WHEREAS, Other degenerative and debilitating brain and

1 nervous conditions will also become more prevalent as the
2 population in Texas ages; for example, Parkinson's disease, which
3 affects 52,500 people in the state, will affect nearly one million
4 people in the U.S. by 2020 and 1.2 million people by 2030; and

5 WHEREAS, A brain research institute of Texas could use state
6 bond proceeds or other revenues to fund research into the causes of
7 and cures for degenerative and debilitating brain and nervous
8 conditions, and a study would help to determine the practicality of
9 establishing such an institute; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
11 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house
12 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to study the
13 establishment of a brain research institute of Texas; and, be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That the committee submit a full report, including
16 findings and recommendations, to the 87th Texas Legislature before
17 it convenes in January 2021; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
19 governed by such general rules and policies for interim committees
20 as the 86th Texas Legislature may adopt.