

By: Reynolds

H.C.R. No. 154

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, In an increasingly complex global economy,
2 transnational labor mobility is crucial to the prosperity of the
3 United States, but our rigid, outmoded immigration policies are
4 making it difficult for the nation to compete; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States Congress last enacted major
6 immigration legislation more than a quarter century ago; since that
7 time, piecemeal attempts at reform have failed to create the kind of
8 rational and effective system we need to maintain competitiveness,
9 whether in industries like agriculture, construction, and
10 manufacturing, which require large numbers of workers able to
11 perform physically demanding tasks, or in technology, where there
12 is increasing demand for employees with advanced degrees in math
13 and science; and

14 WHEREAS, The U.S. is home to millions of unauthorized
15 immigrants, including children brought to this country illegally
16 who have grown up here and know no other home; a commonsense road
17 map to earned legal status for these residents would create
18 additional tax revenue and stimulate the economy by allowing them
19 to open bank accounts, obtain college degrees, buy homes, establish
20 new American companies, and create jobs; and

21 WHEREAS, A rational overhaul of the immigration system
22 requires a tough, fair, and practical program to address the status
23 of unauthorized immigrants, stopping real threats and contingent on
24 bringing accountability to border enforcement programs, providing

1 additional funding for border communities that bear a
2 disproportionate burden in the enforcement of immigration laws, and
3 addressing visa overstays; federal policy must also be designed to
4 develop a guest worker program to respond to the future labor needs
5 of U.S. business by matching willing workers with willing American
6 employers; and

7 WHEREAS, National security and our national interests are
8 poorly served by an embattled immigration system, and patchwork
9 attempts to mend its deficiencies undermine our potential for
10 prosperity and leave us ill-prepared to meet the challenges of the
11 modern world; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to pass
14 comprehensive immigration reform that creates a path to citizenship
15 for undocumented immigrants; and, be it further

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