

By: Goldman

H.R. No. 1049

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Dr. F. Dominic Dottavio is stepping down as  
2 president of Tarleton State University at the end of August 2019,  
3 concluding an exemplary tenure in office that has spanned 11 years;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Under the skillful guidance of Dr. Dottavio, an  
6 engaged and accessible administrator, Tarleton's enrollment has  
7 risen by almost 70 percent, from under 8,000 students to more than  
8 13,000; applications have increased by over 131 percent since 2012,  
9 reportedly placing the school seventh in the nation for such  
10 growth; retention and graduation rates have improved by 60 percent  
11 during the last five years, and The Texas A&M University System has  
12 recognized Tarleton as a model in this regard; donations to  
13 Tarleton have increased by 78 percent, and the endowment is up by 81  
14 percent; and

15           WHEREAS, Since 2008, Tarleton has added more than 30 academic  
16 programs, and it has established a College of Health Sciences and  
17 Human Services as well as a School of Nursing, School of  
18 Engineering, School of Kinesiology, and School of Criminology,  
19 Criminal Justice and Strategic Studies; a new doctoral program in  
20 criminal justice is pending approval; Tarleton offers high-demand  
21 academic programs in Fort Worth, Waco, Midlothian, and Bryan  
22 through partnerships with other colleges and universities, and it  
23 will open the first building of its planned Fort Worth campus in  
24 August 2019; construction and expansion projects totaling over \$400

1 million include the Memorial Stadium renovation, seven new  
2 residence halls, and a state-of-the-art engineering building set to  
3 open in 2019; and

4       WHEREAS, Dr. Dottavio previously served as president of  
5 Heidelberg University in Ohio and as dean and director of The Ohio  
6 State University at Marion; an Ohio State graduate, he holds a  
7 master's degree in forestry and environmental sciences from Yale  
8 University and a doctoral degree from Purdue University's College  
9 of Agriculture and Natural Resources; he will continue to serve  
10 Tarleton as a tenured professor in the College of Agricultural and  
11 Environmental Sciences, and he will assist the Division of  
12 Institutional Advancement; and

13       WHEREAS, Through his visionary leadership and passion for  
14 higher education, Dominic Dottavio has transformed Tarleton State  
15 University, and in so doing, he has earned the deep respect and  
16 admiration of students, his colleagues, and the wider community;  
17 now, therefore, be it

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
19 Legislature hereby honor Dr. F. Dominic Dottavio for his  
20 outstanding service as president of Tarleton State University and  
21 extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

22       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for Dr. Dottavio as an expression of high regard by the  
24 Texas House of Representatives.