

By: Menéndez, et al.

S.R. No. 96

SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) provides \$195 billion in funding to states to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, From the state's share of ARPA funding, the Texas Legislature has appropriated \$16.3 billion to address statewide needs that are essential to recovery from the pandemic, such as unemployment compensation, infrastructure, education, health care, nutrition, and emergency management; and

WHEREAS, These appropriations, made under Senate Bill 8, 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, include \$7.2 billion to reimburse the unemployment compensation fund, \$500 million for broadband infrastructure, \$237 million to complete the construction of a state hospital in Dallas, \$2.5 billion for hospital surge staffing, and \$100 million for food banks and home-delivered meals; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 8 also provides \$160 million for crime victims assistance, \$200 million for cybersecurity, and \$325 million for university construction; and

WHEREAS, The legislature has additionally appropriated from ARPA funds \$300 million to build a state operations center for emergency management, \$113 million to provide mental health services for children and families, and \$286 million to the Teacher Retirement System for insurance claims related to the

pandemic; and

WHEREAS, President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris provided pivotal leadership in encouraging bipartisanship in the United States Congress in its enactment of this landmark legislation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby extend its deepest and most profound gratitude to President Biden and Vice President Harris for their work in providing crucial ARPA funding to the state.

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