H.R. No. 755

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, El Paso Community College has established itself as a model for success in recruiting and equipping the next generation of geoscientists; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Joshua Villalobos, dean of instructional programs, EPCC has developed a well-rounded geosciences program that prepares students for advanced work at a four-year institution by offering them a structured course of study that includes seven geology and environmental courses and labs as well as freshman- and sophomore-level math and science courses; in addition to classwork, students gain valuable experience by conducting field-based research and learning about the variety of career paths available to geoscientists; and

WHEREAS, EPCC's partnership with The University of Texas at El Paso ensures that credits from geological science degrees earned at EPCC transfer, saving students time and money as they pursue a bachelor's degree; in the first seven years after EPCC launched its geosciences program, the number of students seeking a bachelor's degree in geology at UTEP quadrupled, and the number of students working toward an environmental science degree nearly doubled as EPCC graduates transferred to the university; and

WHEREAS, The geosciences program at El Paso Community College offers its students high quality, affordable educational opportunities, and in so doing, it has provided many area residents with a strong foundation on which to build; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commend El Paso Community College for developing an exemplary associate's degree program in geosciences and extend to the school's faculty, staff, and students sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for EPCC as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Fierro

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 755 was adopted by the House on April 30, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House