

By: Fierro

H.R. No. 320

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has imposed significant and
2 unprecedented challenges on teachers, students, and school staff in
3 El Paso, requiring them to adjust and adapt to new changes, methods,
4 and policies during a prolonged public health crisis; and

5 WHEREAS, On March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott declared a
6 state of disaster in Texas due to the spread of the novel
7 coronavirus; although El Paso schools and school districts took
8 immediate action to protect the safety of students and faculty, the
9 protracted nature of the crisis has exposed the limitations of
10 remote learning, especially for students who do not have ready
11 access to the technology necessary to take advantage of it; and

12 WHEREAS, El Paso teachers have demonstrated tremendous
13 dedication to educating youth in these extraordinary
14 circumstances, and they have shown a great deal of passion,
15 creativity, and patience in accommodating the needs of all of their
16 students in a virtual learning environment; at times, they have
17 assumed considerable personal risk in returning to their classrooms
18 for in-person instruction, especially as educators have only
19 recently been added to the priority list for COVID-19 vaccinations;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Students' lives have also been deeply impacted by
22 the pandemic, social distancing, and safety protocols; due to the
23 "digital divide" and the prevalence of full-time virtual learning,
24 some students have fallen behind their peers academically, while

1 many others have experienced stress, anxiety, and loneliness as a
2 result of being away from their classrooms, friends, and
3 extracurricular activities; and

4 WHEREAS, The students, teachers, and school employees of El
5 Paso deserve recognition for their resilience in coping with a
6 pandemic that has disrupted public education in profound ways, and
7 this uncertain time in our history has only highlighted the vast
8 importance of our educators and the work that they do to ensure that
9 all young Texans have the opportunity to succeed; now, therefore,
10 be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
12 Legislature hereby honor El Paso teachers, students, and school
13 staff for their hard work to overcome the difficulties of teaching
14 and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic and extend to them
15 sincere best wishes for the future.