

By: Fierro

H.R. No. 755

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

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

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