By: Oliverson H.C.R. No. 1

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Numerous properties in the Colony Ridge development 2 of Liberty County have been sold to illegal immigrants, resulting in a national security concern that threatens the safety and 3 quality of life in local communities; and 4 5 WHEREAS, Mortgage lenders are able to offer non-citizens specialized loans that use individual tax identification numbers 6 7 instead of social security numbers; Colony Ridge Land, LLC, which does business as Terrenos Houston, has sold land to customers using 8

9 ITIN loans, and its development's population has grown to include

10 an estimated 50,000 to 75,000 residents, many of whom are in the

11 country illegally; in addition, advertisements for Colony Ridge

12 properties have been published in Spanish through international

13 communication channels; and

14 WHEREAS, Colony Ridge and the surrounding area sufficient law enforcement presence; this has attracted illegal 15 immigrants as well as cartel activity, and the Gulf and Sinaloa 16 cartels have reportedly purchased land in the development for safe 17 houses, which are used to smuggle drugs and people into the United 18 States; in addition, there is evidence of cartel involvement from 19 20 early in the development's history, and in 2021, the Drug 21 Enforcement Administration carried out the largest drug bust ever 22 Liberty County when it raided a multimillion-dollar 23 methamphetamine manufacturing lab located inside a Colony Ridge dwelling; other crimes that have occurred in the area include 24

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- 1 murders, sexual assaults, and thefts; despite these issues, the
- 2 Liberty County Sheriff's Office has neglected to check immigration
- 3 status during routine stops; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Illegal immigration to Colony Ridge has led to
- 5 significant changes in the community's way of life; longtime
- 6 residents have reported disruptions such as excessive noise,
- 7 gunfire, and loud music; moreover, issues such as flooding, traffic
- 8 congestion, water pollution, and sewage problems have been
- 9 attributed to the rapid population growth; and
- 10 WHEREAS, The Cleveland Independent School District is
- 11 required to accept local students even if they are non-citizens,
- 12 and over the past four years, enrollment has increased from 6,584 to
- 13 12,400; the school district has worked to accommodate the influx of
- 14 students by building new schools and is reportedly hiring H-1B
- 15 beneficiaries to serve as foreign language teachers; and
- WHEREAS, Illegal immigration to the Colony Ridge area has
- 17 negatively impacted the health, safety, and welfare of local
- 18 residents, and more must be done to prevent illegal immigrants from
- 19 settling in Texas communities; now, therefore, be it
- 20 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas,
- 21 3rd Called Session, hereby call for the thorough investigation of
- 22 the Colony Ridge development in Liberty County and express support
- 23 for legislation that prohibits illegal immigrants from purchasing
- 24 land in communities across Texas.