

By: Flores

H.R. No. 23

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, St. Edward's University in Austin has received the
2 national Seal of *Excelencia* in recognition of its success in
3 serving Latino students; and

4 WHEREAS, The Seal of *Excelencia* is presented by *Excelencia* in
5 Education, a nonprofit organization with a mission to empower
6 Latino students to succeed in higher education; as one of only 39
7 institutions in the country to receive this honor, St. Edward's
8 University earned the further distinction of being the first
9 private university in Texas, the second private university in the
10 U.S., and the only Catholic university to be awarded the three-year
11 certification to date; and

12 WHEREAS, St. Edward's University, which has been a
13 Hispanic-Serving Institution for over three decades, has developed
14 an infrastructure and a range of programming aimed at supporting
15 Latino students through qualitative and quantitative data; the
16 university pairs students with mentors, success coaches, and tutors
17 to assist them on their path to graduation, and it further tracks
18 data on employment, earnings, and debt to help ensure that Latino
19 alumni continue to thrive after graduation; and

20 WHEREAS, In addition, St. Edward's has increased access to
21 scholarships, paid internships, and experiential learning
22 opportunities for Latino students; in the spring of 2023, the
23 university received a grant of more than \$2.1 million from the
24 Hector and Gloria López Foundation that provides full tuition

1 assistance for first-generation Latino college students, and in
2 summer 2023, it was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Hispanic Bar
3 Association of Austin to go toward an endowment for prelaw Hispanic
4 students; and

5 WHEREAS, St. Edward's University's receipt of the national
6 Seal of *Excelencia* acknowledges the institution's sustained
7 commitment to eliminating educational disparities and helping
8 Latino students achieve their higher education goals, and all those
9 involved in securing this designation are to be commended for their
10 efforts; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
12 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby congratulate St. Edward's
13 University on being awarded the Seal of *Excelencia* by *Excelencia* in
14 Education and extend to its administrators, faculty, staff, and
15 students sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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