

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Advances in communication and transportation technology over the past half-century have made today's world increasingly interconnected; as a result, successful businesses, universities, and governments depend on a global perspective; and

WHEREAS, This new era of global exchange has created a marketplace of ideas in which citizens of the world from distinct social, cultural, religious, and linguistic backgrounds cooperate and compete on a daily basis; with foreign trade projected to be a key sector of Texas' economy, the Lone Star State's future is inextricably tied to that of the entire world; and

WHEREAS, Evidence of the growing connection between Texas and the rest of the world can be found in the Institute of International Education's Open Doors Report 2003; Texas ranks third in the United States in the total number of foreign students studying in the state for the 2002-2003 academic year, and these foreign students and their families contributed over \$794 million to the Texas economy in 2002-2003; in addition, 7,202 students studying abroad were enrolled through Texas institutions in 2002; and

WHEREAS, International education is critical to promoting a broadened worldview and thereby preparing Texans for life and work in the global economy; moreover, creating a diverse academic environment by exchanging scholars and students between countries builds the foundation for future international business success; and

WHEREAS, The United States' national security and economic competitiveness depend significantly on the country's ability to provide future leaders with the best education possible; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas Legislature, 4th Called Session, finds that international education is an essential component of the bright future of the great State of Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas House of Representatives supports and encourages international education to ensure that students and future leaders are prepared to meet the challenges of a global society.

Wong

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 143 was adopted by the House on May 17, 2004, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House