

RESOLUTION

Education, including Pre-K, from the Vantage of Grandparents

A RESOLUTION TO: Urge that Pre-K and other educational programs and initiatives in Texas be expanded, and that support and relevant views concerning the importance of education be actively sought from the growing number of Grandparents who are now parenting grandchildren.

WHEREAS: Governor Perry has expressed his strong support for improving education in Texas through his “building blocks for a seamless (educational) system”, which includes improvements from Pre-K programs through high school and beyond; and,

WHEREAS: A recent United Way poll found that Texas voters overwhelmingly believe Pre-K is important to the overall learning potential of children and also believe that Texas should fund high-quality Pre-K for all children; and,

WHEREAS: There is a largely untapped resource for support and relevant views regarding the enormous value to every student, parent, and grandparent as well as to the Texas economy of improving education in Texas, and that is the growing number of Grandparents who are now parenting grandchildren, and they fully understand and appreciate that Pre-K is the foundation, that a high rate of school dropouts is anathema to our society and to our Texas economy, and that a high school degree and beyond is the key to a better future for our children and our state, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the 11th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature sponsor a series of discussions across Texas to elicit the support and relevant views of senior citizens on the expansion of Pre-K and improvement at all levels of education, and encourage and strongly recommend that the 80th Texas Legislature give great weight to these views in any legislation offered to improve education programs in Texas.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of September, 2006, by the General Committee.

Maurice Osborn, Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of September, 2006, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Charlotte Parks, Speaker

ATTEST:

Carlos Higgins, Secretary