

RESOLUTION PROPOSED
BY THE
LOWER VALLEY HISPANIC CHAMBER, RGV HISPANIC CHAMBER AND
CAMARA DE COMERCIO INTERNACIONAL
Rio Grande Valley
March 2017

85th Legislative Session

By: _____

S.C.R. No. ____

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Trade between Texas and Mexico plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, Each year, Texas sends about 36 percent of the state's total exports to Mexico, and in 2015, exports to Mexico totaled nearly \$92.5 million; goods exported to Mexico include computer and electronic products, petroleum and coal products, chemicals, machinery, and transportation equipment, all of which are produced by industries that supply hundreds of thousands of jobs to the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, Since the ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1994, the export of U.S. goods to Mexico has risen 325 percent, while imports into the United States from Mexico have increased 458 percent; in 2012, Americans spent \$277.5 billion for goods from Mexico, and Mexico is America's third-largest supplier of oil, after Canada and Saudi Arabia; additionally, nearly half of the tomatoes and two-thirds of the

mangoes consumed in the United States come from Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The importance of this trade to the economic and fiscal health of Texas border cities, counties, and businesses is significant, and disruption to international commerce would be economically devastating; and

WHEREAS, Mexico is the largest trading partner of Texas and the third-largest of the United States, and it is imperative that our federal government take proactive steps to strengthen ties with Mexico and build bridges of economic opportunity that will benefit Texas and the entire nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby urge the United States Congress to recognize the importance of trade between Texas and Mexico and foster international commerce; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby urge the federal Executive and Legislative Branches to fully evaluate the impact of proposed federal trade policies, legislation, executive orders, and other actions on the Texas-Mexico commerce; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas Secretary of State forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States; to all Executive Branch officials with authority to manage, oversee, and set international trade policy; to the president of the U.S. Senate; to the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be read in both federal legislative chambers and be entered in the Congressional Record.