

By: Howard

H.R. No. 1072

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The prosperity of Texas depends upon highly educated
2 and skilled workers, and six nonprofit workforce development
3 organizations across the state have been greatly assisted in their
4 efforts by the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant
5 Program; and

6 WHEREAS, Established by the Texas Legislature in 2013, the
7 ACE grant program provides matching funds to regional partnerships
8 of community organizations, employers, and community colleges with
9 the goal of helping to break the link between poverty and
10 undereducation; participating workforce development groups include
11 Project QUEST in San Antonio, the Valley Initiative for Development
12 and Advancement (VIDA) in the Rio Grande Valley, Project ARRIBA in
13 El Paso, Capital IDEA of Central Texas, Skill QUEST in Dallas, and
14 Capital IDEA Houston; and

15 WHEREAS, Nearly 16,000 previously low-income Texans have
16 embarked on new careers in health care, technology, and trades
17 through education supported by these workforce development
18 organizations; since 2014, thanks to ACE matching funds, almost
19 1,500 workers have started jobs in new industries at an average
20 hourly rate of \$21.54; this semester alone, ACE is supporting half
21 the training for more than 1,200 Texans; and

22 WHEREAS, For every dollar invested, the six workforce
23 development groups return between \$12.12 and \$26.10 to the
24 community, taxpayers, and participants; moreover, the groups

1 contribute to the 60x30TX Higher Education Plan, working to ensure
2 that by 2030, at least 60 percent of Texans between the ages of 25
3 and 34 will have a certificate or degree; currently in Central
4 Texas, the graduates of Capital IDEA send 70 percent of their
5 children to college; and

6 WHEREAS, By augmenting the resources available to the six
7 participating organizations, the ACE grant program has improved
8 outcomes in developmental education, graduation rates, continuing
9 attendance in postsecondary institutions, and placement in
10 high-skill careers, and the staff and volunteers of those
11 organizations may take great pride in helping the next generation
12 of Texans prepare for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st
13 century; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor Project QUEST, VIDA, Project ARRIBA,
16 Capital IDEA of Central Texas, Skill QUEST, and Capital IDEA
17 Houston for their commitment to strengthening the skills of Texas
18 workers and for their careful stewardship of the taxpayer dollars
19 entrusted to them by the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education
20 Grant Program; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for each organization as an expression of high regard by
23 the Texas House of Representatives.