SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The United States and the United Mexican States share a border of 2,000 miles from Brownsville, Texas, to San Diego, California; the four states of the United States and the six states of the United Mexican States along the border are home to more than 75 million residents, an increase of about 11 million since 1990; and

WHEREAS, A significant percentage of these 10 states' population resides in the 44 United States counties and 80 Mexican municipalities adjacent to the border, where rapid population growth is putting great pressure on an already inadequate infrastructure and straining the border region past its economic limits and resources, the tragic effects of which have broad repercussions on the health of residents in both countries; and

WHEREAS, Setting the stage for many of the health problems of the border is the standard of living of many in the region; more than a third of United States border families live at or below the federal poverty guideline, and an estimated 350,000 people live in colonias, unzoned, semirural communities with no access to public drinking water or wastewater facilities; and

WHEREAS, Such deficiencies in public works have increased the risk of exposure to pollution and water-borne contaminants since many of the primary sources of water along the border are contaminated by sewage and pollution from agricultural and
工业来源；根据美国卫生资源与服务管理局的数据，每天有122百万升的污水被倾倒入提华纳、新和里奥格兰德河中，以及一系列由美国和墨西哥的机构进行的研究，包括德克萨斯州卫生部门，监控沿里奥格兰德河的地点，发现了诸如PCB、氰化物、汞和铅等化学物质，且水平显著。

WHEREAS，除了人口、贫困和污染的影响之外，许多健康问题在边境地区是根深蒂固的问题，因为缺乏对初级医疗和预防医学的访问，医疗资源分布不均，交通不便，缺乏疫苗接种和不足的双语医疗服务提供者，使本来可以预防的健康问题变得更严重。

WHEREAS，若干标准的健康指标反映了医疗系统的缺陷，例如，肝炎A和肺结核的发病率是全国平均水平的两到三倍，麻疹、HIV/AIDS和各种传染病的比例不均，对边境地区的人口构成威胁。

WHEREAS，由于这些问题和许多其他问题的存在，为了提供国际领导力以优化健康和生活质量，美国与墨西哥边境，美国卫生部长和墨西哥卫生部长之间达成了一项协议，创建了美国-墨西哥边境健康委员会。

WHEREAS，边境的健康问题千差万别。
S.C.R. No. 21

profound, with complications arising from cultural, economic, and geographic conditions unique to the region; although the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission has made great progress in promoting health and reducing health disparities, strategic planning and comprehensive study are critical for the commission to fulfill its mission to provide the tools necessary for the future well-being of the border population; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to request that the United States Department of Health and Human Services fund a benchmark study coordinated by the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission and conducted by universities from the border area of each of the adjoining border states in both the United States and the United Mexican States to engage each state's health policy with respect to the border health issues and goals outlined in Healthy Border 2010/Frontera Saludable 2010, a border-wide program of health promotion and disease prevention that defines an agenda for improving health in the United States-Mexico border region; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the study also address early intervention and preventive strategies; water and wastewater issues; immunization; behavioral health issues, including nutrition and exercise; elimination of health disparities among the border population; and response to disaster and disease outbreak; 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 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the
senate of the United States Congress, to the secretary of the United
States Department of Health and Human Services, and to all the
members of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request
that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional
Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of
America.

David Dewhurst
President of the Senate

Jim Clyburn
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 21 was adopted by the Senate
on May 1, 2003.

Larry Craig
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 21 was adopted by the House

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

20 Jun 03

Date

Rick Perry
Governor

Filed in the Office of the
Secretary of State
4:30 P.M. O’CLOCK

JUN 22 2003

Secretary of State