119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. _____

Commending and congratulating Texas Southmost College for 100 years of service to the State of Texas and the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Commending and congratulating Texas Southmost College for 100 years of service to the State of Texas and the United States.

Whereas, on August 9, 1926, the Brownsville Independent School Board voted to establish the first institution of higher education in the Rio Grande Valley, the Junior College of the Lower Rio Grande Valley, with 84 students attending the first classes held on September 21, 1926;

Whereas, on January 1, 1930, the college became the first accredited junior college in the State of Texas;

Whereas the college was renamed Brownsville Junior College in 1931 and, finally, Texas Southmost College in 1949;

Whereas Texas Southmost College moved from the Brownsville Independent School District facilities to its current

location at the site of historic Fort Brown in 1948, with the original deed consisting of 48.9 acres and 75 buildings;

Whereas, for a century, Texas Southmost College has been a beacon of opportunity, providing affordable and accessible higher education to generations of students across the region;

Whereas Texas Southmost College is driven to be a nationally leading community-rooted and student-centered institution that transforms lives and uplifts families;

Whereas Texas Southmost College's mission is to empower students, families, and industry through practical, affordable, high-quality education that drives personal success and elevates regional economic growth;

Whereas the college continues to foster a strong college-going culture by serving the entire family, beginning with the youngest Scorpions at the campus early childhood center, through youth summer camps, growing high school dual credit programs, traditional academic degrees and transfer credits, workforce training programs, customized corporate training, and continuing education;

Whereas Texas Southmost College has grown its dual enrollment programs to now include 24 public, private, and charter school partners, through which high school students can earn academic and career and technical education credit at no cost to their families, even earning an associate's degree before they graduate from high school;

Whereas the college connects community members with high-wage, high demand careers through a range of educational pathways that include institutional awards, certificates, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees;

Whereas the Board of Trustees have reduced tuition and fees twice since 2017, making Texas Southmost College an affordable institution of higher education in the Rio Grande Valley, and has lowered the tax rate for the past 4 consecutive years, providing financial relief for local homeowners;

Whereas Texas Southmost College has played an instrumental role in strengthening the region's economic ecosystem by becoming the destination for high-quality education and workforce training in the Lower Rio Grande Valley;

Whereas the faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Trustees are committed to the college's values of service, integrity, innovation, excellence, community, and accountability; and

Whereas the year 2026 marks 100 years of service by Texas Southmost College to the State of Texas and the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends and congratulates Texas Southmost College for 100 years of service to the State of Texas and the United States;

(2) recognizes Texas Southmost College for 100 years of service and its impact as a force for good for the State of Texas and the United States; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of Texas Southmost College, Dr. Jesús Roberto Rodríguez.