

By: Button

H.C.R. No. 104

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Technology has revolutionized the way we think,  
2 work, interact, and play, and in the educational setting, it can  
3 engage learners, promote discovery, and enhance the acquisition of  
4 knowledge and skills; and

5 WHEREAS, Today, many students are comfortable with and  
6 practical in the use of technology; a 2012 study by the national  
7 nonprofit organization Project Tomorrow found that a large  
8 percentage of Texas students access the Internet through their  
9 personal smart phones, laptops, and tablet computers at home but  
10 are rarely allowed to employ them in the classroom; moreover, 72  
11 percent of Texas parents indicated that they would provide a mobile  
12 computing device for their child if the school would permit the use  
13 of such learning tools, for instance through "Bring Your Own  
14 Device" programs; and

15 WHEREAS, Outside the classroom, young people are able to use  
16 technology to create personalized learning environments that  
17 directly fuel their passion for knowledge; schools frequently do  
18 not offer such a highly customized experience, causing a growing  
19 disconnect between how students acquire knowledge and collaborate  
20 with others in their daily lives and how they are expected to learn  
21 and participate in the classroom; and

22 WHEREAS, The use of technology in the classroom can make  
23 education more student-centered and offer the ability to tailor  
24 instruction to serve youths who come from diverse backgrounds and

1 have different interests and goals; although children may be  
2 "digital natives" with high technical ability, they still need  
3 guidance in developing critical thinking skills that will allow  
4 them to maximize their potential to thrive amidst the rapid change  
5 of the information age; teachers are likewise eager to take  
6 advantage of the vast digital resources available to broaden  
7 horizons and deepen the learning experience; and

8 WHEREAS, Technological proficiency is a requirement for  
9 success in an increasingly global economy, and the use of mobile  
10 computing devices in schools can better prepare young Texans to  
11 become productive members of society; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas  
13 hereby encourage school districts to adopt policies that promote  
14 the use of technology and technological devices in classrooms; and,  
15 be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an  
17 official copy of this resolution to the commissioner of the Texas  
18 Education Agency.