

67th LEGISLATURE—FIRST CALLED SESSION

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO STUDY ISSUES AND CONCERNS
RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION**

S. C. R. No. 22

WHEREAS, High quality education for the citizens of Texas is a vital public concern, and a major portion of the state's total budget is appropriated for education; and

WHEREAS, The education system will be undergoing important changes as a result of recent major policy decisions in such areas as curriculum reform, bilingual education, and requirements relating to teacher competency; and

WHEREAS, Additional decisions may need to be made, particularly concerning financial matters, following the outcome of current litigation and the proposed reduction in federal funds and considering the growth of the permanent school fund; and

WHEREAS, Local independent school districts need to reevaluate their current programs in light of the statewide assessment results, and many districts face continuing difficulty in financing capital expenditures; and

WHEREAS, The legislature indicated its continuing concern and need for additional information about education matters during the Regular Session of the 67th Legislature by authorizing interim studies of educational costs and of vocational education; and

WHEREAS, These important and widespread changes, along with continuing general property tax concerns, create a need for leadership and for a forum for cooperation and communication relating to public education in Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Texas, the House of Representatives concurring, That the 67th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby established a special committee to study the issues and concerns relating to public education in Texas, including curriculum reform, bilingual education, requirements relating to teacher competency, and alternative methods of financing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee be composed of 18 members, including the lieutenant governor, chairman; the speaker of the house of representatives, vice-chairman; the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education; four other members of the senate, to be appointed by the lieutenant governor; the chairman of the House Committee on Public Education; four other members of the house, to be appointed by the speaker of the house; the chairman of the State Board of Education; two other members of the State Board of Education, to be appointed by the chairman of that board; the chairman of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Public Education; and two other members of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Public Education, to be appointed by the governor; the chairman shall appoint advisory committees, as necessary, and the committee shall hold meetings and public hearings at the call of the chairman; and, be it further

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLVED, That the Central Education Agency be authorized to provide an executive director and staff support for the committee to assist with the conduct of the study; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee have the power to issue process to witnesses at any place in the State of Texas, to compel the attendance of such witnesses, and to compel the production of all books, records, documents, and instruments that the committee may require; if necessary to obtain compliance with subpoenas and other process, the committee shall have the power to issue writs of attachment; all process issued by the committee may be addressed to and served by any peace officer of the State of Texas or any of its political subdivisions; the chairman shall issue, in the name of the committee, such subpoenas and other process as the committee may direct; in the event that the chairman is absent, the vice-chairman or any designee of the chairman is authorized to issue subpoenas or any other process in the same manner as the chairman; witnesses attending proceedings of the committee under process shall be allowed the same mileage and per diem as are allowed witnesses before any grand jury in the state; the testimony given at any hearing conducted pursuant to this resolution shall be given under oath subject to the penalties of perjury; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee be authorized to request the assistance, where needed in the discharge of its duties, of all state agencies, departments, and offices, and that it be the duty of such agencies, departments, and offices to assist the committee when requested to do so; the committee shall have the power to inspect the records, documents, and files of every agency, department, and office of the state to the extent necessary to the discharge of its duties within the area of its jurisdiction; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the operating expenses of the committee be paid from the Contingent Expense Fund of the Senate and the Contingent Expense Fund of the House, equally, and that the committee members be reimbursed from these funds for their actual expenses incurred in carrying out the provisions of this resolution; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee make complete reports, including findings, recommendations, and drafts of any legislation deemed necessary, to the legislature as necessary and appropriate; copies of the reports shall be filed in the Legislative Reference Library, with the Texas Legislative Council, with the Secretary of the Senate, and with the Chief Clerk of the House.

Adopted by the Senate on August 9, 1981; adopted by the House on August 9, 1981.

Approved Aug. 10, 1981.

Filed with the Secretary of State, Aug. 11, 1981.