

WHEREAS, our nation as it enters the 21st century finds itself being challenged in an increasingly competitive global marketplace by countries such as China, India and other Southeast Asian nations, and,

WHEREAS, tens of millions of “Baby Boomers” who have helped forge America as a leader in the global marketplace will leave the work force over the next decade, and,

WHEREAS, America’s business leaders and key educators agree such skills must be replaced with a generation of young adults whose math, science and technology skills will help our nation sustain its global leadership role, and,

WHEREAS, public policy in emerging nations such as China mandates every child be enrolled in early childhood education programs, and,

WHEREAS, Hispanics by the year 2030 will comprise fully 25 percent of our nation’s labor pool, and,

WHEREAS, a prominent study shows at least one in three Latino children begins kindergarten without the oral English skills needed to succeed in school, and,

WHEREAS, the Latino educational achievement gap is likely to widen over ensuing years, and,

WHEREAS, there is alarm over the fact that the high school dropout rate nationwide is 25 percent, while the rate for African Americans and Hispanics are nearly double that figure, and,

WHEREAS, an increasing collection of business leader and futurist voices are now lending strong support for programs that will provide access to high-quality early childhood education programs for all pre-kindergarten children, and,

WHEREAS, a Federal Reserve Bank sponsored study shows the cost of such programs will be more than offset through a better educated workforce that, in turn, will also foster a lower rate of socio-economic problems for the nation,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the _____ National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals - Austin joins those forward-thinking business leaders and educators in asking federal and state lawmakers to make early childhood education programs the highest priority so as to reverse the tide that will certainly overwhelm this nation in terms of social and economic consequences if strong action is not soon taken.

