

*Texas Charter  
for  
Public Higher Education  
by  
John Campbell*



*Adopted by the 70th Texas Legislature,  
Regular Session*

*1987*

Texas Charter  
for  
Public Higher Education

For John Campbell -  
no one had a greater  
hand -- or mind -- in  
the authorship ~~of~~ the  
Texas Charter than you  
did. The State of Texas  
and the public higher  
education enterprise of this  
1987  
State are in your debt  
for the incalculable  
contribution you made to  
the work of the Select  
Committee on Higher Education.  
Without you, the results



would not have been  
as good. You have  
earned the respect  
and admiration of  
all of those who have  
worked with you -- especially  
the members of the  
Select Committee.

Larry Temple

August, 1987

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The *Texas Charter for Public Higher Education*, adopted as official state policy by the 70th Legislature, is a formal statement of the goals and priorities for higher education in Texas. Developed by the Select Committee on Higher Education, the Charter reflects the testimony of hundreds of university and community college officials, professors, students, state and local business and civic leaders, elected state officials, nationally known scientists and educators, and representatives of professional associations at public hearings held across the state.

The Charter, the first policy document of its kind adopted by a state legislature, reaffirms a commitment at the highest levels of state government to improve academic quality and to bring educational opportunity within the reach of every young Texan. It is a pledge to achieve greater efficiency and accountability in the management of the more than 130 public and private campuses already serving more than three-quarters of a million students. Under the Charter, higher education becomes an active partner in ambitious new programs to advance research leading to a diversified state economy.

Educated minds will be the principal fuel to drive the Texas economy. Educated minds will propel the resolution of social issues related to an advanced and changing society. Educated minds will promote and maintain the culture of the state's diverse population. In recognizing the role of knowledge and wisdom among our citizens, the Texas Charter commits the state to the pursuit of excellence in higher education.

— Larry E. Temple  
Chairman, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
Chairman, Select Committee on Higher Education