



LANGUAGE ROADMAP FOR THE 21st CENTURY TEXAS

WILL THE NEXT GENERATION of business and community leaders in Texas be able to deal with a globalized world on its own terms? Are businesses more likely to turn to graduates of Texas schools and universities for their future needs, or will they have to recruit from out of state and country? Will young people graduating from Texas schools and universities a

decade from now have the necessary linguistic skills and cultural competencies to deal with employers, employees, clients, investors, visitors, and friends who are just as likely to be based in China, Argentina or Poland as they are in San Antonio?

Achieving these ambitious goals will entail a lengthy process involving numerous initiatives and the participation of all stakeholders. It will require the creation of a high-level coordinating board responsible for assessing the state's progress in meeting

the goals, and it will take vision and commitment, a willingness to innovate and experiment, a new infusion of resources, and the institutionalization of a long-term perspective to achieve success in this vital effort, the scale and difficulty of which can only be measured – and its importance truly appreciated – in relation to the even more staggering costs of not implementing these proposals.