

By: Longoria

H.R. No. 2170

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Through his work as co-founder of the All Star
2 Theatre, Joel A. Garza has provided the Rio Grande Valley with a
3 vibrant cultural resource and an outstanding creative outlet for
4 young Texans; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2012, Mr. Garza founded the All Star Theatre
6 alongside Carlos Perez with the mission of cultivating talent in
7 the Rio Grande Valley to stage professional-quality theatrical
8 productions; the company's first show was the groundbreaking
9 Broadway rock musical *Spring Awakening*, and the All Star Theatre
10 has since provided opportunities for South Texas actors, artists,
11 and technicians to hone their skills and develop their crafts while
12 bringing shows such as *Chicago*, *Annie*, *Cabaret*, and *The Wizard of Oz*
13 to life; and

14 WHEREAS, The All Star Theatre is unique among theatrical
15 production companies in the region in offering theatrical training
16 to children and youth as its primary mission; the organization has
17 consistently operated at full capacity, with 110 students between
18 the ages of 5 and 17 years old being involved at any given time; the
19 students work year-round to prepare for and stage shows at the
20 McAllen Performing Arts Center, a facility designed to accommodate
21 touring Broadway shows and concerts; and

22 WHEREAS, Drawing on the services of respected educators, the
23 All Star Theatre offers classes in acting, singing, and dance to
24 aspiring young performers; the company is also committed to hosting

1 master classes led by top talents from Broadway in its efforts to
2 elevate the standards of the Rio Grande Valley theater scene; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Garza serves as the executive artistic director
4 for the All Star Theatre and the All Star Kids Club; he holds a
5 bachelor's degree in corporate communication from The University of
6 Texas at Austin and two master's degrees in theatre and
7 communication studies from The University of Texas-Pan American; he
8 is currently a lecturer in the communication studies program at The
9 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, and he further shares his
10 time as board secretary for the Palm Awards Organization and as an
11 adjudicator for University Interscholastic League One Act Play
12 competitions across the state; and

13 WHEREAS, For over a decade, the All Star Theatre has helped
14 promote an appreciation for the arts in young people and audiences
15 alike, and it is a privilege to join in honoring Joel Garza and all
16 those who have devoted their time and talents to this dynamic
17 organization; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
19 Legislature hereby commend Joel A. Garza and the All Star Theatre
20 for their exceptional contributions to the Rio Grande Valley and
21 extend to all those affiliated with the organization sincere best
22 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for the All Star Theatre as an expression of high regard by
25 the Texas House of Representatives.