

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Juan Alamia, a resident of the Rio Grande Valley,
2 joined the First United States Volunteer Cavalry at its mustering
3 camp in San Antonio in May 1898 for service in the Spanish-American
4 War; and

5 WHEREAS, The conflict between Spain and the United States
6 centered on the question of Cuba, where for several years
7 insurgents had been fighting a guerrilla war against their colonial
8 rulers; on April 20, 1898, the U.S. Congress recognized Cuban
9 independence and simultaneously authorized the use of American
10 military force to ensure it; four days later, Spain declared war on
11 the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Alamia's regiment trained at Camp Wood in San
13 Antonio for a month before embarking for Cuba; the unit's first
14 commander, Leonard Wood, was soon replaced by his
15 second-in-command, Theodore Roosevelt; known affectionately as the
16 Rough Riders, these troops won fame for their successful assaults
17 on Kettle and San Juan hills, near the city of Santiago, on July 1,
18 1898; and

19 WHEREAS, Spain's defeat in Cuba was sealed a few days later,
20 when the Spanish fleet was destroyed as it tried to escape from
21 Santiago harbor; American forces also succeeded in taking Puerto
22 Rico and the Philippines, bringing the war to a conclusion by
23 mid-August 1898; and

24 WHEREAS, Juan Alamia returned to his home in South Texas,

1 where, in May 1913, he became a casualty of the Mexican Revolution;
2 Mr. Alamia was killed when General Lucio Blanco, a supporter of the
3 rebel leader Venustiano Carranza, attacked the border town of Rio
4 Bravo; and

5 WHEREAS, Today, just over a century after the formation of
6 the Rough Riders, Mr. Alamia is remembered for his heroism,
7 patriotism, and devotion to the cause of freedom; and

8 WHEREAS, State Representative Aaron Peña, Jr., has
9 rightfully presented this resolution to the Texas House of
10 Representatives for its consideration on behalf of his ancestor
11 Juan Alamia; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
13 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby recognize Juan Alamia for
14 his remarkable achievements and service to this state and country;
15 and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for the family of Juan Alamia as an expression of high
18 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Pena

H.R. No. 41

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 41 was adopted by the House on August 5, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House