

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, In January 2002, the police departments of the  
2 cities of Dallas and Fort Worth joined together to launch the  
3 "Communities Banking for Safety: Seguridad Bancaria" program to  
4 protect Texans of Hispanic descent from robberies and residential  
5 burglaries; the pronounced success of this program led the  
6 Arlington Police Department to follow suit in November of that same  
7 year; and

8           WHEREAS, Working in conjunction with the staff of the Mexican  
9 Consulate, these forward-thinking police departments have truly  
10 taken the initiative in our state's fight against crime; studies  
11 indicate that Hispanic residents are more likely than Texans of any  
12 other ethnic group to fall victim to crimes involving monetary  
13 theft, possibly due to a tendency to carry large sums of cash  
14 resulting from obstacles faced by individuals seeking to open bank  
15 accounts without traditionally accepted forms of identification;  
16 and

17           WHEREAS, The Seguridad Bancaria program combats these  
18 dangers by providing information on crime prevention and financial  
19 safety and, in collaboration with many leading banks and financial  
20 service companies, has already helped to lessen the incidence of  
21 theft within the Hispanic community; among the organizations that  
22 have joined forces with the Dallas, Fort Worth, and Arlington  
23 police departments in this significant effort are Univision, the  
24 Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Fort Worth  
25 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Dallas District of the U.S.

1 Immigration and Naturalization Service; and

2 WHEREAS, The program has also won more widespread acceptance  
3 in the community for the Mexican Consulate's identification card,  
4 the Matricula Consular, an official form of documentation that has  
5 helped Mexican nationals who live in Texas to open bank accounts,  
6 apply for power and water services, participate in city programs,  
7 and establish a strong and secure financial foundation for their  
8 families; and

9 WHEREAS, By allowing individuals with forms of  
10 nontraditional identification, such as the Matricula Consular, to  
11 open bank accounts and by providing Hispanics with other important  
12 information, the entities involved in the Seguridad Bancaria  
13 program are promoting not only greater safety among these valued  
14 members of the Lone Star community, but greater economic  
15 opportunity as well, and the many outstanding Texans associated  
16 with the program are indeed worthy of special recognition for the  
17 creativity and commitment they have brought to bear on a  
18 significant crime problem in our state; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby commend all those who have made the Seguridad  
21 Bancaria program a resounding success in the prevention of crime in  
22 the communities of Dallas, Fort Worth, and Arlington; and, be it  
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared  
25 for the police departments of Dallas, Fort Worth, and Arlington as  
26 an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Alonzo

H.R. No. 108

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 108 was adopted by the House on August 13, 2003, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House