

By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 108

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

1 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Dallas District of the U.S.
2 Immigration and Naturalization Service; and

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

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

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

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