

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Jaime Ayala of the Arlington Police
2 Department has been nominated for his department's Medal of Valor
3 for his heroic actions in helping to apprehend an armed suspect on
4 December 23, 2002; and

5 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Ayala was off duty on that day and had
6 gone shopping with his two children, ages six and three; they were
7 entering a Target when Lieutenant Ayala observed two store
8 employees pursue and pin to the ground a shoplifting suspect; as the
9 suspect continued to resist and a crowd gathered, Lieutenant Ayala
10 proceeded to render assistance to the employees; and

11 WHEREAS, The suspect, who was lying face down with his arms
12 beneath him, repeatedly threatened to shoot; Lieutenant Ayala
13 worked his hands under the suspect's body and struggled with him for
14 several minutes for control of the gun, which he was at last able to
15 wrest away from the man; and

16 WHEREAS, Although he was unarmed and in the company of his two
17 young children, Lieutenant Ayala responded swiftly and decisively
18 to a crisis, and his successful disarming of the suspect, at great
19 risk to himself, prevented the possible shooting of numerous
20 people; and

21 WHEREAS, This courageous officer and his wife, Janet, are the
22 parents of Mandy Keith, Alicia Marie Ayala, and Jaime Ayala, Jr.;
23 Lieutenant Ayala's parents are Ruben and Gloria Ayala of Edinburg;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Peña has appropriately
2 recognized Lieutenant Ayala's critical intervention by passing
3 this resolution in his behalf during the 78th Texas Legislature,
4 4th Called Session; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
6 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby honor Lieutenant Jaime
7 Ayala for his bravery and composure in the face of a
8 life-threatening situation and extend to him deep appreciation for
9 his selflessness and professionalism; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for Lieutenant Ayala as an expression of high regard by the
12 Texas House of Representatives.

Peña

H.R. No. 339

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 339 was adopted by the House on May 17, 2004, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House