

By: Pena

H.R. No. 339

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.