

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Tony Garza, the United States
2 Ambassador to Mexico, has been selected as the 2003 Border Texan of
3 the Year by Hidalgo's Borderfest Association, and this prestigious
4 designation is indeed well deserved; and

5 WHEREAS, A Brownsville native, Ambassador Garza earned a
6 bachelor's degree in business administration from The University of
7 Texas and went on to attain a doctor of jurisprudence degree from
8 Southern Methodist University (SMU) School of Law; and

9 WHEREAS, This exemplary Texan was drawn to public service and
10 in 1988 was the first Republican elected to countywide office in
11 Cameron County; six years later he was appointed Texas Secretary of
12 State by Governor George Bush, whom he also served as a senior
13 advisor and as the governor's lead liaison on border and Mexico
14 affairs; and

15 WHEREAS, Ambassador Garza made another historic mark on the
16 Texas political landscape in 1998 when he became the first Hispanic
17 Republican elected to statewide office; as the state's 41st
18 railroad commissioner, he worked to maintain the strength of our
19 state's energy sector, while promoting safety and a balanced
20 approach to the preservation of the state's natural resources; in
21 addition, he also lent his expertise and commitment to Governor
22 Rick Perry's Special Commission on 21st Century Colleges and
23 Universities; and

24 WHEREAS, Ambassador Garza's many accolades include a

1 Distinguished Alumnus Award from SMU School of Law and recognition
2 as one of five Outstanding Young Texas Exes in 1989, and he has
3 twice been tabbed by *Hispanic Business Magazine* as one of its "Top
4 100 Most Influential Hispanics"; and

5 WHEREAS, A distinguished and dedicated public servant,
6 Ambassador Garza is a credit to this country and to this state, and
7 it is most appropriate that his significant achievements be
8 celebrated at this time; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
10 Legislature hereby congratulate Ambassador Tony Garza on being
11 named 2003 Border Texan of the Year and extend to him sincere best
12 wishes for continued success in all his endeavors; and, be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Ambassador Garza as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives.

Flores

H.R. No. 371

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 371 was adopted by the House on March 4, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House