

By: Wilson

H.R. No. 966

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, On March 18, 2003, the citizens of the Lone Star  
2 State lost a powerful voice for change and progress with the passing  
3 of the Honorable Irma Rangel, the first Mexican American woman ever  
4 elected to serve in the Texas House of Representatives; and

5           WHEREAS, A passionate advocate for the residents of South  
6 Texas, as well as for minorities and other underserved populations,  
7 this outstanding public servant had ably represented the citizens  
8 of this state with honor and distinction since 1976, and she was  
9 appointed to her first leadership position during the 68th Texas  
10 Legislature, when she was named vice chair of the House Judicial  
11 Affairs Committee; in subsequent years she served as vice chair of  
12 the House Urban Affairs and International and Cultural Relations  
13 committees, but it was her leadership role with the House Higher  
14 Education Committee over the course of seven sessions that will  
15 endure in the minds of many, for she created and enhanced  
16 educational opportunities in Texas that will profoundly affect both  
17 current and future generations; and

18           WHEREAS, Representative Rangel became the first woman to  
19 serve as chair of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, and her  
20 extensive work in behalf of this state's citizens contributed to  
21 such significant achievements as the South Texas Border Initiative  
22 and the school of pharmacy at Texas A&M University--Kingsville; and

23           WHEREAS, This accomplished legislator was inducted into the  
24 Texas Women's Hall of Fame and was the first Mexican American to

1 receive the Mirabeau B. Lamar Medal from the Association of Texas  
2 Colleges and Universities, a fitting tribute for a woman who  
3 devoted more than two decades of her life to the betterment of  
4 higher education in the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, It is the custom of this state to adorn the walls of  
6 our magnificent Capitol with paintings depicting people and events  
7 that have helped to shape the future of Texas; one individual who is  
8 indeed worthy of this honor is the late Representative Irma Rangel,  
9 whose legacy of uncompromising integrity and belief in the  
10 importance of public service will be remembered in this state and in  
11 this chamber for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby direct the House Administration Committee to  
14 hang a portrait of the Honorable Irma Rangel in a suitable location  
15 in the house chamber as a tribute to this remarkable legislative  
16 pioneer and public servant; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk of the house forward an  
18 official copy of this resolution to the chairman of the House  
19 Administration Committee.