

By: Chavez

H.R. No. 1443

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The National Credit Union Foundation presented
2 Rufino Carbajal, Jr., of El Paso with the industry's highest honor,
3 the Herb Wegner Memorial Individual Achievement Award in February
4 2003; and

5 WHEREAS, Reserved for those credit union executives who have
6 shown exceptionally innovative and creative leadership, this honor
7 is a fitting tribute to this dedicated professional who for 27 years
8 has helped countless Texans to receive much-needed financial
9 services; and

10 WHEREAS, An Army veteran who attended The University of Texas
11 at El Paso, Mr. Carbajal became a leader in the West Texas business
12 community after completing his education, and in 1976 he was named
13 manager of the Tri-State Wholesale Associated Grocers Federal
14 Credit Union; and

15 WHEREAS, Under his able guidance, this small enterprise grew
16 from a one-person operation to a full-service financial institution
17 that today employs more than three dozen Texans, serves 11,800
18 members at three locations, and manages more than \$35 million in
19 assets; during his fine tenure with the organization, Mr. Carbajal,
20 who also serves on the state's Credit Union Commission, has
21 successfully overseen a merger with the West Texas Credit Union
22 and, as a result of his visionary approach to service, the
23 institution is positioned at the forefront of banking technology,
24 offering its members Internet banking, audio response, and imaging

1 services; and

2 WHEREAS, These achievements are all the more remarkable in
3 light of the unique challenges facing this Lone Star credit union
4 and its members, 70 percent of whom are minimum-wage earners with
5 very limited credit experience; over the course of his exemplary
6 career, Mr. Carbajal has introduced a cutting-edge risk-based
7 lending system, offering individual development accounts,
8 providing low-cost international wire transfers, and cofounding
9 the El Paso Credit Union Affordable Housing LLC, a nationally
10 renowned program that funds mortgages, counsels members,
11 translates financial planning materials, and develops and teaches
12 financial literacy courses in both English and Spanish; and

13 WHEREAS, In his role as chief executive officer of the West
14 Texas Credit Union, Mr. Carbajal has proven himself to be a man of
15 vision, determination, and compassion, and his legacy of sound
16 financial stewardship will continue to positively affect the lives
17 of many Texans for generations to come; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate Rufino Carbajal, Jr., on his
20 receipt of the Herb Wegner Memorial Individual Achievement Award
21 from the National Credit Union Foundation and extend to him warmest
22 best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors; and, be
23 it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for Mr. Carbajal as an expression of high regard by the
26 Texas House of Representatives.