

By: Escobar

H.R. No. 1589

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, As Hipolito H. Garza celebrates his 80th birthday on
2 November 8, 2003, he joins the ranks of octogenarians living in
3 Texas whose lifetime of work and experience greatly benefits their
4 state; and

5 WHEREAS, A native of Kingsville, he joined the 9th Army Air
6 Force at the age of 18 and served his country with distinction as a
7 member of the 596th Bomb Squadron, 397th Bomb Group; he
8 participated in 28 missions over France, Belgium, Holland,
9 Luxembourg, and Germany, during which he was shot down on three
10 occasions, sustaining a lifelong back injury; he was honorably
11 discharged in 1945 with the rank of staff sergeant; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Garza's meritorious military service was
13 recognized with the European-African Middle East Theater Ribbon
14 with 2 Bronze Stars, an Overseas Bar, an Aerial Gunner Badge, and
15 the Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters; and

16 WHEREAS, Returning home after the war, he attended Texas A&I
17 University and established a career with the Corpus Christi Army
18 Depot as an aircraft sheet metal worker whose responsibilities
19 included repairing Huey helicopters for use in Vietnam; he retired
20 after a notable career that spanned more than 33 years; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1980, Mr. Garza again enrolled at Texas A&I
22 University to complete requirements for a bachelor's degree in
23 secondary education; over the course of four years of teaching at
24 Robstown High School, he sponsored the Vocational Industrial Clubs

1 of America (VICA) and proudly watched his students serve as
2 president of the state VICA organization for two consecutive years;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Garza has always been ready to lend a helping
5 hand with his children's school carnivals and other activities,
6 with the work of the Knights of Columbus, and with sponsorship of a
7 Hispanic youth club, the Kingsmen, comprised of teenagers attending
8 H. M. King High School in Kingsville; and

9 WHEREAS, As he marks eight decades, Mr. Garza can take great
10 pride in his achievements as a successful citizen, veteran,
11 husband, father of six, retired civil service employee, educator,
12 youth activities sponsor, and community servant; now, therefore, be
13 it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor Hipolito H. Garza on the eve of the joyous
16 occasion of his 80th birthday and extend to him warmest best wishes
17 for continued happiness; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Mr. Garza as an expression of high regard by the Texas
20 House of Representatives.