

By: Gutierrez

H.R. No. 1623

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe Ochoa has served the citizens of Edinburg
2 with great integrity and foresight for the past 10 years, helping to
3 usher in a period of unprecedented economic growth, improved
4 educational opportunities, new infrastructure projects, and
5 long-awaited family entertainment facilities; and

6 WHEREAS, This native Texan has helped to bring two
7 state-of-the-art power plants, valued at more than half a billion
8 dollars, to the city of Edinburg, increasing the amount of
9 on-demand electrical power available to the entire region; each
10 year the community is the site of more construction, and in 2002
11 alone the city welcomed over \$110 million in new projects,
12 representing a significant increase from the \$20 million worth of
13 projects reported the year that Mayor Ochoa took office; and

14 WHEREAS, He has played an instrumental role in attracting to
15 the city new family-oriented entertainment venues, including the
16 Edinburg Professional Baseball Stadium, the SuperSplash water
17 park, and Carmike Cinemas 20, the most technically advanced movie
18 theater complex south of San Antonio; moreover, he has helped to
19 raise the stature of the community by twice leading it to a
20 prestigious All-America City award, a national honor that the city
21 has received three times; and

22 WHEREAS, In addition to his work in behalf of local
23 businesses, Mayor Ochoa has helped the city to obtain more than \$125
24 million in new state funds to upgrade U.S. Highway 281, which one

1 day will be known as Interstate Highway 69, and to secure many more
2 tens of millions of dollars for the enhancement of major traffic
3 corridors; a strong proponent of higher education, he has worked
4 closely with state officials and University of Texas System regents
5 to dramatically upgrade the facilities at The University of
6 Texas--Pan American in Edinburg and to create The University of
7 Texas Regional Academic Health Center in Edinburg, Harlingen, and
8 Brownsville; and

9 WHEREAS, Mayor Ochoa may reflect with pride on these many
10 outstanding accomplishments, and his future achievements will no
11 doubt continue to add to his already remarkable legacy as a public
12 servant, a legacy that is perhaps best captured by a quotation from
13 the writer George Eliot: "Our deeds still travel with us from afar,
14 And what we have been makes us what we are."; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
16 Legislature hereby commend the Honorable Joe Ochoa on his exemplary
17 service to the community of Edinburg and the State of Texas; and, be
18 it further

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