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RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, It is a distinct pleasure to honor Lucille de la 2 Garza and recognize the remarkable life she has led as the beloved 3 wife of former U.S. Congressman Eligio "Kika" de la Garza II; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Vela clan hailing from Edinburg, Mrs. de la Garza attended Edinburg public schools and participated on the debate team and played the saxophone; after graduating from high school, she attended Draughn's Business College, completing a two-year course in only nine months; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. de la Garza worked with Lack's Furniture Store 10 and Whalen's before taking a permanent position in the car license 11 department at the old Hidalgo County courthouse; within five years, 12 she became head of the department, and when the new courthouse was 13 planned, Mrs. de la Garza helped to design the new license 14 department office; and

WHEREAS, In the early 1950s, Mrs. de la Garza met her future husband, Eligio "Kika" de la Garza II, at a fund-raiser at the Sacred Heart Church, where they later were married; over the years, the loving couple have shared an enduring union filled with many happy times and cherished family memories and have been blessed by three children, Jorge, Michael, and Angela; and

21 WHEREAS, After Mr. de la Garza was elected to the United 22 States Congress in 1964, this devoted and supportive wife left the 23 Rio Grande Valley she loved and accompanied her husband to 24 Washington, D.C.; over the course of seven presidential

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administrations, she enjoyed many spectacular experiences,
 attending state dinners, visiting embassies, and meeting an array
 of statesmen and dignitaries; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. de la Garza has garnered her share of distinctions, including having christened two U.S. Navy ships, the USNS Victorious at Amelia, Louisiana, and the USS Black Hawk at Savannah, Georgia; furthermore, she was named the first "Mother of the Year" by AVANCE and received the "Distinguished Democrat" award from the Hidalgo County Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, In May of 2003, Mr. and Mrs. de la Garza achieved a golden milestone in their lives together when they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. de la Garza is a lady truly worthy of esteem;
she is a source of inspiration to all those who know her, and it is a
privilege to honor her at this time; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas Legislature hereby recognize the extraordinary life of Lucille de la Garza and congratulate her and her husband, the Honorable Kika de la Garza, on their recent golden wedding anniversary; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 22 prepared for Mrs. de la Garza as an expression of high regard by the 23 Texas House of Representatives.

> Gutierrez Pena

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2019 was adopted by the House on June 2, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House