

By: Escobar

H.R. No. 228

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Emma Salinas Garza was born in Kingsville on May 26,  
2 1926, the same year that the first liquid-fueled rocket was  
3 launched and led America into the space age and a new era of  
4 discovery and exploration; and

5           WHEREAS, Emma's parents, Severiano and Paula, were born and  
6 raised in Ciudad Mier, Mexico, one of the early colonies  
7 established by Spain, circa 1742, and part of an area bordering the  
8 Rio Grande that was known as Aztlan and later Nuevo Santander; she  
9 attended public schools in Kingsville and dropped out in the ninth  
10 grade to help her parents manage the household; and

11           WHEREAS, Notwithstanding leaving school, Emma maintained a  
12 dream of one day completing her education, but not until she was  
13 able to raise her own family; and

14           WHEREAS, Emma S. Garza married her childhood sweetheart at  
15 the age of 19, soon after his return from service in the Army Air  
16 Corps during World War II; and

17           WHEREAS, After raising six children, Emma completed her GED  
18 within one week's time at the age of 40; she went on to attend Texas  
19 A&I University, where she worked diligently in her pursuit of an  
20 elementary education degree while working full-time as a teacher's  
21 aide in the public school system; and

22           WHEREAS, Despite the demands of motherhood and full-time  
23 employment, she took a full course load at night school and  
24 completed the requirements for a degree in education in four years,

1 graduating in 1980 at the age of 54; continuing her education, she  
2 earned a master's degree in elementary education and additional  
3 certification in reading, bilingual education, and early childhood  
4 education and would teach in the Robstown Independent School  
5 District for a total of 10 years before her retirement; and

6 WHEREAS, Although of humble origins, Emma persevered to  
7 achieve her goal of attaining a college education, overcoming many  
8 barriers in the process and living and achieving the American  
9 Dream; her strength, courage, determination, and faith saw her  
10 through good times and bad, and her commitment to family and God  
11 have inspired new generations to succeed in life and share her sense  
12 of commitment and service to family and community; and

13 WHEREAS, Emma S. Garza has made an indelible mark on the world  
14 around her and epitomizes those hard-working, dedicated parents and  
15 educators across our nation that serve as role models for young and  
16 old alike to follow as they strive to reach lifelong goals; now,  
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
19 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commend Emma S. Garza on  
20 her remarkable achievements and honor her for the life lesson she  
21 teaches--that it is never too late to attain long-held goals,  
22 realize dreams, and achieve success; and, be it further

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