

By: Madden

H.R. No. 236

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Melissa Noriega has rendered sterling service as the
2 temporary acting representative for House District 145 in the 79th
3 Texas Legislature; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Melissa Noriega was selected for the
5 post by her husband, Representative Rick Noriega, after he was
6 called to active duty in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring
7 Freedom, and her nomination was approved unanimously by the house
8 of representatives on January 11, 2005, the opening day of the
9 regular session; and

10 WHEREAS, Concerned, especially, with issues that affect the
11 everyday lives and well-being of her fellow Texans, Representative
12 Melissa Noriega takes particular pride in the passage of H.B. 1018,
13 which she authored, and S.B. 1186, which she sponsored; the first
14 act will allow private school bus operators to continue their vital
15 service to working-class families who fear letting their children
16 walk to school unattended through dangerous neighborhoods; the
17 second measure will save lives by allowing certain victims of
18 family violence to vacate leased premises without penalties, and
19 also allows military families who meet certain criteria to vacate
20 leased premises when a military spouse or sponsor of dependents is
21 deployed to another location for extended military duty; and

22 WHEREAS, Altogether, Representative Noriega has authored 37
23 bills and resolutions and sponsored 7; she has also been a valued
24 member of the House Committees on Corrections and Defense Affairs &

1 State-Federal Relations; and

2 WHEREAS, At the end of the regular session, the Texas House
3 Democratic Caucus chose Melissa Noriega as the first recipient of
4 the group's Joe E. Moreno Freshman of the Year Service Award; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Representative
6 Noriega has spent most of her life in Texas; before resigning her
7 post with the Houston Independent School District in order to take
8 her seat in the legislature, she served as a manager of special
9 projects and district initiatives in the HISD Professional
10 Development Services Department; she earlier worked as a research
11 and evaluation associate for the school district, during which time
12 she was instrumental in dramatically raising parent involvement in
13 Title I programs in her administrative district, as well as in
14 providing computer and leadership training for parents in English,
15 Spanish, and Vietnamese; and

16 WHEREAS, Long involved in her community, Melissa Noriega has
17 served as president of the Eastwood Civic Association and shared
18 her time and talents with a number of other community
19 organizations; she currently serves as a member of the Children's
20 Ministry Council of Christ Church Cathedral, the executive
21 committee of Parents for Public Schools, and the long-range
22 planning committee for the University of Houston Charter School;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Melissa and Rick Noriega are the proud parents of
25 two sons, Alex, a student at Texas A&M University, and Ricky, who
26 attends the University of Houston Charter School; and

27 WHEREAS, Since the convening of the 79th Legislature, Melissa

1 Noriega has exemplified the highest ideals of public service,
2 handling the myriad responsibilities of her office with keen
3 intelligence, unfailing graciousness to her colleagues in the
4 house, and tireless dedication to the welfare of her constituents
5 and the people of Texas; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
7 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby honor Melissa Noriega for
8 her outstanding service as the temporary acting representative for
9 House District 145 and extend to her sincere appreciation for her
10 able contributions to the work of this chamber; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Representative Noriega as an expression of high regard
13 by the Texas House of Representatives.