

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 88

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A 100th birthday is truly cause for celebration, and  
2 on March 25, 2006, Manuela Vela of Alice commemorated this  
3 significant milestone in her life as guest of honor at a fiesta  
4 attended by her family and friends; and

5           WHEREAS, Born on January 28, 1906, in the Realitos community  
6 in Duval County, Ms. Vela remembers traveling in a horse-drawn  
7 wagon to the fields to work and that in those days, a quarter paid  
8 for a dozen eggs, while 50 cents bought a generous allotment of  
9 fabric; and

10           WHEREAS, The oldest of eight children, Ms. Vela enjoyed the  
11 attention of handsome suitors with whom she attended dances and  
12 horse races, but she ultimately devoted her time and energy to  
13 family responsibilities, including caring for her father in his  
14 later years and managing the family farm; and

15           WHEREAS, "Meme" Vela raised a nephew, Lauro Vela, as her son,  
16 and his four children, Laura Samaniego, Lauro Vela, Jr., Roxanne  
17 Vela, and Marcy Lopez, as her grandchildren; she credits her  
18 longevity to her involvement with her grandchildren and  
19 great-grandchildren; and

20           WHEREAS, This determined woman learned to read and write in  
21 her young adult years, and took pleasure in flower arranging and  
22 embroidery as well; a resident of Alice since the late 1960s, she  
23 enjoys relatively good health, despite a penchant for rolling her  
24 own cigarettes, a habit she picked up from her grandmother at the

1 age of 14; and

2 WHEREAS, Meme Vela is a woman who has brightened the lives of  
3 countless people with her love, friendship, and caring nature, and  
4 it is a pleasure to join her family and friends in celebrating her  
5 truly special birthday; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
7 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby warmly congratulate  
8 Manuela Vela on the joyous occasion of her 100th birthday and extend  
9 to her sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it  
10 further

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