

By: Quintanilla

H.R. No. 207

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, On April 28, 2006, the El Paso Mission Trail
2 Association is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the group's
3 founding; and

4 WHEREAS, This notable community organization has spent two
5 decades promoting and preserving the historical resources of the El
6 Paso area and educating the public about the forces and events that
7 have shaped the region; and

8 WHEREAS, The centerpiece of the association's activities is
9 the El Paso Mission Trail, a renowned sightseeing route that
10 includes the historic sites of the Ysleta and Socorro Missions,
11 both originally established in 1682, which were the first permanent
12 European settlements in Texas; moreover, the Mission Trail also
13 includes the Chapel of San Elizario, another important site, which
14 was founded in 1789; and

15 WHEREAS, Among the association's many other accomplishments
16 is its role in the creation of the well-known First Thanksgiving
17 reenactment that is held each year at San Elizario to commemorate
18 the arrival of Juan de Oñate and other Spanish colonists, who passed
19 through the area in 1598 on their way to found settlements in New
20 Mexico; and

21 WHEREAS, Successful initiatives such as these were due in
22 large part to the enlightened foresight of the men and women who
23 founded the organization and served on the original board of
24 directors: Sheldon Hall, who was the group's first president, Pat

1 Brink, H. W. (Skip) Clark, Ann Enriquez, Cynthia Faran, Leon Metz,
2 Frank Smith, and John West; and

3 WHEREAS, These industrious community leaders and the other
4 members of the El Paso Mission Trail Association have done a great
5 service for El Paso and the State of Texas by presenting history in
6 a lively, firsthand manner, and in so doing, they have made a
7 generation of Lone Star residents and visitors more aware of the
8 region's poignant past; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor the 20th anniversary of the founding of
11 the El Paso Mission Trail Association and extend to its members
12 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the
15 Texas House of Representatives.