By: Quintanilla H.R. No. 371

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Raul Garcia has rendered invaluable service to the San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society, and this notable Texan's outstanding efforts have helped to preserve the rich cultural heritage of this historic region of the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, Founded as the result of a 1991 family reunion, the San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society was chartered in 1997; today it boasts more than 100 members from across the country, many of whom are descendants of the community's founding families; and

WHEREAS, Society volunteers maintain a genealogy/historical museum, housed in the building that served as the county's first public school; they also operate a tourist information center for the many visitors, students, and educators from around the world who travel to El Paso to explore the Mission Valley Historic District, which consists of the centuries-old communities of San Elizario, Ysleta, and Socorro; and

WHEREAS, Through the hard work of its volunteers, the society hosts an annual conference in April that coincides with the date of a thanksgiving celebration held in the vicinity on April 30, 1598, some 23 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock; moreover, the society sponsors the Mission Valley Youth Arts Festival, Las Posadas pageant, a Veterans Day program, a senior citizens luncheon, and various fund-raising events honoring

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public-spirited local residents; and

WHEREAS, The success of this important organization would not be possible without the tireless support of its volunteers, men and women who have given graciously of their time and talents to ensure that the society fulfills its mission of fostering local pride, encouraging the preservation of historic sites, and supporting heritage tourism in San Elizario and the Mission Valley; now,

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RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby honor Raul Garcia as an outstanding volunteer of the San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society and extend to this dedicated individual best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Raul Garcia as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.