

By: Quintanilla

H.R. No. 376

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Erasmo Payan has rendered invaluable service to the
2 San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society, and this notable
3 Texan's outstanding efforts have helped to preserve the rich
4 cultural heritage of this historic region of the Lone Star State;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Founded as the result of a 1991 family reunion, the
7 San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society was chartered in
8 1997; today it boasts more than 100 members from across the country,
9 many of whom are descendants of the community's founding families;
10 and

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

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

1 public-spirited local residents; and

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

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

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