

By: Bailey

H.R. No. 506

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Walter Hinojosa is retiring as legislative and
2 political director for the Texas AFL-CIO, after a distinguished
3 career as an educator and labor leader; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Houston, Mr. Hinojosa studied political
5 science at the University of North Texas, where he earned a
6 bachelor's degree in 1972, and at Northern Arizona University,
7 where he completed a master's degree in 1974; and

8 WHEREAS, He taught for a number of years in the Houston area,
9 serving as a government, economics, American history, and Mexican
10 American studies instructor and working at both the community
11 college and high school level; while teaching in high school, he
12 helped hundreds of students raise money to spend an intensive week
13 in Washington, D.C., observing the federal government with the
14 Close Up Program; in 1980-1981, he was selected as the Outstanding
15 Young Educator for the city of Houston; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Hinojosa subsequently served as legislative
17 director of the Texas Federation of Teachers from 1987 until 1995,
18 when he assumed his present position; and

19 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has given generously of his time
20 and talents to a number of organizations that address social issues
21 and human needs; deeply involved with the Labor Council for Latin
22 American Advancement, the Hispanic support group of the AFL-CIO, he
23 was a charter member of its Houston-Gulf Coast chapter and
24 currently serves as secretary/treasurer of the Texas organization

1 and as an executive board member of the national group; and

2 WHEREAS, A former executive board member of Texas Citizen
3 Action and a founding member of ProTex, a network for progressive
4 organizations in the state, he now serves on the board of directors
5 for the United Way of Texas and the Workers Assistance Program of
6 Texas; and

7 WHEREAS, Imbued with a passion for politics, Mr. Hinojosa
8 comes from a family that has long been active in the public realm;
9 his grandfather served as the first Latino precinct chair in Harris
10 County, and his brother, A. Robert Hinojosa, formerly served as a
11 state district judge and now presides as a municipal court judge in
12 Houston; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Hinojosa has served five terms as secretary of
14 the Texas Democratic Party, worked in numerous political campaigns,
15 and run for public office himself; he has also served as a delegate
16 to two national Democratic conventions and to every state
17 Democratic convention since 1976; and

18 WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the many demands of his work and
19 community activities, Walter Hinojosa has also enjoyed a rich
20 family life; he and his wife, Sally, have four children, Barbra,
21 Robert, Arthur, and Charles, and seven grandchildren, Michelle,
22 Melissa, Atlantis, Robert, Duncan, Tristan, and the late Cheyenne;
23 they have also fostered nearly 100 children, and in that mission
24 have sought especially to keep large groups of siblings together;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Hinojosa is an elder in the Presbyterian Church
27 and a valued congregant of St. John's Presbyterian Church in

1 Manchaca; together with his wife, he finds relaxation in gardening,
2 reading, and camping and watching high school baseball; and

3 WHEREAS, For more than three decades, Walter Hinojosa has
4 brought to his endeavors an unfailing integrity, purposefulness,
5 and generosity of spirit that has won him the high regard of
6 countless fellow citizens, and it is a pleasure to recognize his
7 commitment to the people of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be
8 it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
10 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Walter Hinojosa on
11 his exceptional career and extend to him sincere best wishes for a
12 fulfilling retirement; and, be it further

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