

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 660

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Throughout her professional career, Nina Perales of
2 San Antonio has worked in support of civil rights, advocacy, and
3 education for Latinos; and

4 WHEREAS, A graduate of Brown University and Columbia
5 University School of Law, Ms. Perales is the Southwest Regional
6 Counsel for MALDEF; in that role, she directs the organization's
7 litigation in Texas and in eight additional southern and western
8 states; and

9 WHEREAS, This esteemed professional specializes in voting
10 rights law, including redistricting and vote dilution challenges;
11 she served as lead counsel for Latino plaintiffs in the Texas
12 redistricting cases of 2001, which challenged the Texas Senate and
13 House of Representatives and the U.S. congressional districts on
14 the basis of minority vote dilution, and she was successful as the
15 lead counsel for Latino interveners in Arizona in 2003; and

16 WHEREAS, Currently, Ms. Perales serves as lead counsel for
17 the GI Forum of Texas in a Latino vote dilution challenge to the
18 2003 Texas congressional redistricting; she was one of the lead
19 attorneys arguing that case before the U.S. Supreme Court in March
20 2006; and

21 WHEREAS, In addition to her own cases, Ms. Perales supervises
22 the work of five staff attorneys who conduct impact litigation and
23 advocacy throughout the Southwest on behalf of Latinos in the areas
24 of education, immigrant rights, employment discrimination, and

1 political access; and

2 WHEREAS, Nina Perales is an outstanding lawyer, and she
3 indeed merits commendation for her contributions to the legal
4 systems of this state and nation; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
6 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Nina Perales on her
7 many notable achievements in the field of law and extend to her best
8 wishes for the future; and, be it further

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