

By: Gallego

H.C.R. No. 237

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Jose Montemayor, who is retiring as Texas insurance
2 commissioner on May 31, 2005, after six years in that office, has
3 rendered exceptional service to the citizens of this state; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Montemayor joined the Texas Department of
5 Insurance in 1993; he served two years as director of Insurer
6 Services and four years as associate commissioner for the Financial
7 Program, overseeing the licensing, solvency, and market conduct of
8 more than 2,000 insurers and health maintenance organizations doing
9 business in Texas; and

10 WHEREAS, The first Hispanic insurance commissioner in Texas,
11 Mr. Montemayor was appointed to that office by then Governor George
12 Bush and appointed to two additional terms by Governor Rick Perry;
13 during his tenure as the chief regulator for the insurance
14 industry, Mr. Montemayor launched the \$130 million per year Texas
15 FAIR plan, which provides for residential property insurance for
16 qualified consumers who are having difficulty obtaining coverage,
17 and worked with the Texas Legislature to modernize insurance
18 regulation and address skyrocketing increases in medical
19 malpractice premiums; and

20 WHEREAS, In addition, Mr. Montemayor created protocols both
21 for the early identification of companies at risk for insolvency
22 and for intervening in such cases; he is credited with many
23 successful company rehabilitation interventions, as well as with
24 improving consumer protection in every line of insurance; and

1 WHEREAS, Widely respected in the insurance industry, this
2 esteemed Texan has chaired the North American Free Trade Agreement
3 tri-national group, composed of industry members and regulators
4 from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico; moreover, he has served as
5 chairman of the Property and Casualty Committee of the National
6 Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), as head of the NAIC
7 Examination Oversight Task Force, and as chairman of the NAIC's
8 holding company group; and

9 WHEREAS, Before joining the Texas Department of Insurance,
10 Mr. Montemayor served for more than 20 years in the United States
11 Air Force; he enlisted in 1969 and became an officer and ICBM combat
12 crew commander in 1978; he later served in the Peacekeeper and
13 Minuteman ICBM programs and in the Air Force Security Assistance
14 program in Latin America before retiring in 1993 with the rank of
15 major; and

16 WHEREAS, A native of Brownsville, Mr. Montemayor received a
17 bachelor's degree in 1975 from St. Edward's University; he also
18 holds a master of arts degree in administration from Webster
19 University, a master's degree in logistics management from the Air
20 Force Institute of Technology, and a master of accountancy degree
21 from Texas State University-San Marcos; in 1988 he was a Kellogg
22 Foundation fellow; and

23 WHEREAS, Jose Montemayor has given unstintingly of his
24 talents and efforts in behalf of the State of Texas, and his
25 unwavering commitment to the duties of his office has reflected
26 government service at its finest; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas

1 hereby honor Jose Montemayor for his exemplary service as Texas
2 insurance commissioner and extend to him sincere appreciation for
3 his immeasurable contributions to the Lone Star State; and, be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for Mr. Montemayor as an expression of high regard by the
7 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.