

By: Pena

H.R. No. 250

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Blandina Cardenas has been named the seventh
2 president of The University of Texas-Pan American, and this
3 exciting milestone offers an apt opportunity to reflect on this
4 outstanding educator's many contributions to the community and to
5 recognize her status as the university's first woman president; and

6 WHEREAS, A native Texan, Dr. Cardenas received her bachelor's
7 degree in journalism from The University of Texas at Austin before
8 completing her doctoral work in education administration at the
9 University of Massachusetts at Amherst; and

10 WHEREAS, From 1989 to 1992, Dr. Cardenas was affiliated with
11 the LBJ Institute at the former Southwest Texas State University,
12 serving as director of the Southwest Center on Values, Achievement
13 and Community in Education; she has also contributed to her field as
14 director of the Office of Minorities in Higher Education at the
15 American Council on Education; and

16 WHEREAS, Her previous experience additionally includes
17 tenure at The University of Texas at San Antonio, where she was
18 professor and dean of the College of Education, and she brings to
19 her new position a firm grasp of the challenges and opportunities
20 that will shape institutions of higher education in the 21st
21 century; and

22 WHEREAS, Known for her expertise and judgment by her fellow
23 educators and her colleagues in government, Dr. Cardenas is a
24 founding board member of the Fundacion Solidaridad Mexicana

1 Americana and has served as chairperson of the board of trustees of
2 the Educational Testing Service; she also served two six-year terms
3 as a member of the United States Commission on Civil Rights; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Cardenas has been the recipient of numerous
5 awards, including honorary degrees from Notre Dame University, Kean
6 College of New Jersey, and St. Mary's College of Indiana; she has
7 also received the National Education Association Human Rights
8 Award, the Washington Committee of the National Association for the
9 Advancement of Colored People's Human Rights Award, the La Raza
10 Award from the National Council of La Raza, and the highest honor
11 bestowed by the government of Mexico on foreign citizens, induction
12 into the Orden del Aguila Azteca; and

13 WHEREAS, The selection of Dr. Cardenas for the rigorous and
14 rewarding work of leading UTPA ensures that this dynamic
15 educational institution's future is in highly competent hands, and
16 all associated with the university will no doubt benefit from her
17 steady stewardship; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Pena has justly recognized Dr.
19 Cardenas by passing this resolution in her behalf during the
20 Regular Session of the 79th Texas Legislature; now, therefore, be
21 it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
23 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Blandina Cardenas on being
24 named the seventh president of The University of Texas-Pan American
25 and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be
26 it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

H.R. No. 250

1 prepared for Dr. Cardenas as an expression of high regard by the
2 Texas House of Representatives.