

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 601

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The community of Del Rio lost a treasured citizen
2 with the passing of Dr. Roberto Antonio Cuellar on October 24, 2004,
3 at the age of 75; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Del Rio on May 12, 1929, Dr. Cuellar
5 graduated as valedictorian from San Felipe High School and earned
6 bachelor's and master's degrees at Sul Ross State University;
7 following service in the U.S. Army with the Medical Corps, 10th
8 Infantry Division, he taught college-level classes in Del Rio for
9 several years and then did graduate work in biochemistry at
10 Columbia University; he earned his medical degree with honors from
11 the University of Nuevo Leon in Monterrey, Mexico, in 1965 and later
12 pursued a specialization in pathology and forensic medicine,
13 completing a five-year residency at The University of Texas Health
14 Science Center at San Antonio in 1978; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Cuellar then returned to Del Rio, where he had
16 earlier had his private practice, and joined the staff of the Val
17 Verde Memorial Hospital, now the Val Verde Regional Medical Center;
18 he served as chief of staff at the center in the 1980s and held the
19 post of pathology/laboratory director at the time of his passing;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, A Fellow of the American College of Forensic
22 Examiners and a member of that organization's advisory board on
23 professional standards, Dr. Cuellar also served as vice councilor
24 for the Texas Medical Association Board of Councilors and, from

1 1981 until his death, as president of the Val Verde County Medical
2 Society; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Cuellar gave generously of his time and talents
4 to a number of civic endeavors, serving as chairman of the City of
5 Del Rio Citizen's Commission on the Right of Eminent Domain, as a
6 member of the citizen's committee to select a site for the Ruben
7 Chavira Elementary School, and as a member of the City of Del Rio
8 Economic Development Committee and chairman of that body's health
9 task force; moreover, he helped to expand medical services and
10 training in the community through his instrumental role in securing
11 for Del Rio an Area Health Education Center and a baccalaureate
12 degree nursing program; and

13 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman was a longtime member of the
14 Jesus M. Limones American Legion Post 595, which he served as
15 commander on several occasions, and the Knights of Columbus Council
16 No. 2687, receiving Third- and Fourth-Degree Knight honors; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Cuellar was the devoted husband of Maria
18 Graciela Cuellar, a proud father, and a loving grandfather; and

19 WHEREAS, Through the passionate commitment and immense
20 skills that he brought to his profession and his community, Dr.
21 Cuellar has left a priceless legacy of improved health care for
22 countless Texans, and his memory will be forever cherished by those
23 who were blessed to share in the warmth of his love and friendship;
24 now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
26 Legislature hereby pay special tribute to the life of Dr. Roberto
27 Antonio Cuellar and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his

1 family: to his wife, Maria Graciela Cuellar; to his daughters and
2 sons-in-law, Dr. Veronica G. Cadena and Dr. Antonio Cadena, Jr.,
3 and Sonia Araceli and John Ramirez; to his grandchildren, Julia
4 Theresa, Louis Anthony, Isabella Diane, and Sara Olivia Cadena and
5 Roberto Miguel, Cassandra, and Cristina Ramirez; to his sister,
6 Maria del Socorro Lichr and her husband, Donald; and to his other
7 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Roberto
11 Antonio Cuellar.