

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, On International Women's Day, which occurred on  
2 March 8, 2005, one remarkable woman, Maria del Socorro Ramirez, was  
3 on the minds of many Texans whose lives were forever changed by this  
4 committed civic leader; and

5           WHEREAS, International Women's Day is an annual day of  
6 tribute to women who have fought and advocated for the elimination  
7 of poverty and violence against their gender, and Mrs. Socorro  
8 Ramirez was indeed a woman who helped to empower the female  
9 residents of Sparks, a colonia located about 15 miles west of El  
10 Paso; and

11           WHEREAS, She was a founding member of the Sparks Housing  
12 Development Corporation, a community-based center dedicated to  
13 improving the health and well-being of colonia children and  
14 families through affordable housing development and social  
15 services; also known as the Centro Socorro Ramirez, this nonprofit  
16 organization was led by Mrs. Socorro Ramirez as its executive  
17 director from 1990 until the time of her death in 1996; and

18           WHEREAS, A well-known and greatly admired community activist  
19 who fought for human rights and social justice, Mrs. Socorro  
20 Ramirez devoted her life to improving the living conditions in the  
21 colonias and enlightening state and federal agencies on colonia  
22 issues; and

23           WHEREAS, A woman of uncommon integrity, strength, and  
24 generosity, Maria del Socorro Ramirez gave unselfishly of her time

1 to others, and her wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will never be  
2 forgotten by those who knew her; her words, Para La Comunidad, or  
3 For the Community, have left a lasting impression on all those who  
4 continue to strive to make their community a better place; now,  
5 therefore, be it

6         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Maria del Socorro  
8 Ramirez and join with all those associated with the Sparks Housing  
9 Development Corporation in remembering her many accomplishments.

Chavez

H.R. No. 875

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 875 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 7, 2005.

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Chief Clerk of the House