

By: Chavez

H.R. No. 875

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.