

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 995

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The nationally acclaimed artist and writer Carmen
2 Lomas Garza of San Francisco is visiting Austin to speak at the
3 Texas Library Association Conference, and she is being honored on
4 April 6, 2005, by Mexic-Arte Museum in celebration of the 15th
5 anniversary of the publication of her first book, *Family*
6 *Pictures/Cuadros de Familia*; and

7 WHEREAS, A native of Kingsville, Ms. Garza decided to become
8 an artist at the age of 13; inspired by the Chicano movement of the
9 late 1960s, she is compelled to depict the everyday lives of Mexican
10 Americans based on her own memories and experiences of South Texas;
11 her work elicits recognition and appreciation from Mexican
12 Americans and educates those who are unfamiliar with her cultural
13 heritage; although her medium changes from paintings to prints and
14 from installations to cutouts, her resolute pride in the Mexican
15 American experience never alters; and

16 WHEREAS, As an artist, Ms. Garza has enjoyed numerous solo
17 exhibitions at prestigious institutions across the country,
18 including the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden of the
19 Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., the Whitney Museum of
20 American Art in New York, the Smith College Museum of Art in
21 Northampton, Massachusetts, and the Mexican Museum in San
22 Francisco; in 1991, she had a major solo exhibition, titled "A Piece
23 of My Heart/Pedacito de mi Corazon" that originated at Laguna
24 Gloria Art Museum in Austin and eventually traveled to six other

1 museums in the United States; and

2 WHEREAS, This much-respected artist has also seen her work
3 included in significant group exhibitions at the Museum of Fine
4 Arts, Houston and the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.;
5 she was one of many contributors to the groundbreaking 1990
6 exhibition, "C.A.R.A., Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation,
7 1965-1985"; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Garza has received several fellowships,
9 including two grants from the National Endowment for the Arts in
10 painting and printmaking; she has won countless awards and honors
11 for her children's books, the first of which, *Family*
12 *Pictures/Cuadros de Familia*, is a bilingual text of her paintings
13 and short stories that was published in 1990; and

14 WHEREAS, Carmen Lomas Garza is truly an inspiration, both as
15 an artist and as an innovator, and her work is a national treasure
16 that preserves the rich and varied history of Mexican American
17 culture; it is a pleasure to honor her on this occasion and to
18 celebrate the 15th anniversary of the publication of her first
19 book; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
21 Legislature hereby welcome Carmen Lomas Garza on the occasion of
22 her visit to Austin, commend her for her extraordinary
23 accomplishments as an artist and writer, and extend to her sincere
24 best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Ms. Garza as an expression of high regard by the Texas
27 House of Representatives.