

By: Escobar

H.R. No. 2057

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The members of St. Francis Xavier Parish in La Feria
2 are celebrating the parish's 75th anniversary on December 3, 2005,
3 providing an apt time to reflect on its rich history; and

4 WHEREAS, Figuring prominently in the development of the
5 parish is St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, which was established
6 in 1912 after the La Feria Townsite Company, Inc., donated land on
7 which the simple wooden mission church was constructed; the first
8 Catholic church in the city, it was officially declared a parish in
9 1930 by the bishop of Corpus Christi, the Reverend Emmanuel B.
10 Ledvina; that same year, the original structure was destroyed by
11 fire, and a new church building was constructed; and

12 WHEREAS, Father H. J. Schmidtner served as the parish's first
13 pastor, and throughout the past seven-and-a-half decades, the
14 congregation has benefited from the leadership of many dedicated
15 men and women, including the Benedictine Fathers of Corpus Christi,
16 the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, the Reverend Joseph A. Murray, and
17 the Reverend Tom Pincelli; moreover, the church has been enriched
18 by such organizations as the St. Francis Xavier Altar Society, and
19 it has produced 11 priests from its membership; and

20 WHEREAS, Under the current pastorship of the Reverend
21 Plutarco Belanggoy, and the guidance of the Reverend Parochial
22 Vicar Andre B. Kazadi, and Deacon Hugo de la Cruz, the parish
23 continues to thrive and serve as a vital part of the La Feria
24 community; as members prepare to observe this important milestone,

1 it is indeed appropriate to join in celebrating the traditions and
2 contributions of this admirable community; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
4 Legislature hereby commemorate the 75th anniversary of St. Francis
5 Xavier Parish and extend to its parishioners sincere best wishes
6 for the future; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for the parish as an expression of high regard by the Texas
9 House of Representatives.