

By: Luna

H.R. No. 2284

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The certain knowledge of a life well lived tempers  
2 the profound sadness that the passing of Miguel "Mike" Zepeda of  
3 Corpus Christi on October 12, 2003, brought to all who loved and  
4 respected this distinguished civic leader; and

5           WHEREAS, Mr. Zepeda served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945,  
6 assisting in the liberation of the Philippine Islands and earning  
7 an honorable discharge; beginning in 1951, he worked for Reynolds  
8 Metals Company until his retirement in 1984; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Zepeda helped to organize the USWA Local 4813  
10 and served as shop steward and local union president; he worked for  
11 the Coastal Bend Labor Council as a trustee, vice president,  
12 president, and active delegate; an elected delegate to the AFL-CIO  
13 Conventions many times over the years, he worked with the American  
14 Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Union and was  
15 an AFSCME Local Union volunteer business manager; moreover, he was  
16 elected president of the local chapter of the Labor Council of Latin  
17 American Advancement and was active in a number of special civic  
18 projects in addition to working in behalf of people in need; and

19           WHEREAS, Mr. Zepeda made numerous significant contributions  
20 to his community through his membership in LULAC Council #1 and  
21 American GI Forum; a founder of Mexican American Democrats and  
22 Tejano Democrats, he was elected Democrat precinct chairman in the  
23 late 1950s and served for decades; he also served as a national  
24 Democratic delegate in 1984 in San Francisco; in 1997, his many

1 years of dedication and hard work were recognized with his  
2 induction into the Nueces County Democratic Hall of Fame; and

3 WHEREAS, Demonstrating an unwavering commitment to social  
4 justice, Mr. Zepeda was a plaintiff in four suits for Hispanic  
5 advancement, including ones relating to desegregation of schools  
6 and single-member city council districts; and

7 WHEREAS, With the passing of this distinguished gentleman,  
8 the State of Texas has lost an esteemed leader and civil rights  
9 activist, but with his life, the people of Texas have gained an  
10 immeasurable legacy of good works that will benefit generations to  
11 come; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Miguel "Mike" Zepeda  
14 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his  
15 wife of 49 years, Nina Zepeda; to his daughters, Lupe Zepeda, Alma  
16 Zepeda, Rosie Barboza and her husband, Andres, Debbie Tamez, and  
17 Irma Mendoza and her husband, Danny; to his four brothers,  
18 Sylvestre Zepeda and his wife, Angie, Albert Zepeda and his wife,  
19 Elvira, Paul Zepeda, and Yndalecio Zepeda and his wife, Yolanda; to  
20 his two sisters, Beatrice Ortiz and Maria David Guerrero and her  
21 husband, Daniel; to his grandchildren, Alex Tamez, Nina Tamez,  
22 Michael Barboza, Christine Barboza, Stephanie Gauna, and Daphne  
23 Mendoza; to his great-grandchildren, Ethan and Samuel Gauna; to his  
24 sister-in-law, Juana Zepeda; and to his other relatives and many  
25 friends; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
27 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of

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1 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Miguel  
2 "Mike" Zepeda.