

By: Quintanilla

H.R. No. 2297

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Maurah Ruiz, a student at San Elizario Middle School
2 in Anthony, Texas, has been named a national finalist in the
3 2004-2005 Do the Write Thing Challenge; and

4 WHEREAS, Sponsored by the National Campaign to Stop Violence,
5 the Do the Write Thing program encourages seventh-grade and
6 eighth-grade students to examine the impact of violence on their
7 lives and to make a personal commitment to do something about the
8 problem of violence; and

9 WHEREAS, Students accepting the challenge use some form of
10 written expression, such as an essay, poem, play, or song, to
11 address three questions: how has violence affected that student's
12 life, what are the causes of violence, and what can that student do
13 about violence; and

14 WHEREAS, In El Paso County, more than 575 students from five
15 school districts--Canutillo, Anthony, Clint, Fabens, and San
16 Elizario--participated in the challenge; a total of 10 students, a
17 boy and a girl from each school, were selected as school finalists,
18 and from that round of winners a boy and a girl were chosen as
19 national finalists; and

20 WHEREAS, National finalists are honored at a recognition
21 ceremony in Washington, D.C., and during their visit to the
22 nation's capital they have an opportunity to present their views on
23 violence to a variety of government officials; in addition, their
24 writings are published in a book and placed in the Library of

1 Congress; and

2 WHEREAS, Our state needs citizens who understand the serious
3 issues facing their communities and who are willing to tackle
4 difficult social conditions, and through her thoughtful and
5 eloquent meditation on violence, Maura Ruiz has shown qualities of
6 mind and heart that signal the emergence of a wise and
7 public-spirited leader; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
9 Legislature hereby congratulate Maura Ruiz on her selection as a
10 national finalist in the 2004-2005 Do the Write Thing Challenge and
11 extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success in all her
12 endeavors; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Ms. Ruiz as an expression of high regard by the Texas
15 House of Representatives.