

By: Guillen

H.C.R. No. 56

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, For 52 years and counting, J. O. Barrera of San Diego  
2 has faithfully served as Duval County Veterans Service Officer,  
3 dutifully meeting the needs of U.S. military veterans and their  
4 families; and

5           WHEREAS, A San Diego native, Mr. Barrera was called to  
6 military service on November 18, 1942, shortly after graduating  
7 from high school; he spent 19 months in Iceland during his  
8 three-year stint before being discharged on December 21, 1945; and

9           WHEREAS, In 1946, Mr. Barrera began employment with the Duval  
10 County Tax Collector's Office, a position he held until February 1,  
11 1955, when he was appointed Duval County Veterans Service Officer;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Barrera's hard work and dedication to his job  
14 earned him the opportunity to become service officer in the San  
15 Antonio office of the Veteran's Affairs Commission in 1973, but his  
16 loyalty to the veterans of Duval County led him to decline that  
17 offer; and

18           WHEREAS, Named Outstanding Veterans County Service Officer  
19 for the 60-county San Antonio Region by the Texas County Service  
20 Officers Association in 1979, Mr. Barrera received the AMVETS  
21 National Commander's Appreciation Certificate from the American  
22 Veterans Organization Office in Houston on February 26, 1999; that  
23 same year, the man known as the "Dean of Texas Veterans Service  
24 Officers" was awarded certificates from State Representative

1 Ignacio Salinas, Jr., and State Senator Judith Zaffirini in  
2 commemoration of his 44 years of service as Duval County Veterans  
3 Service Officer; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Barrera is a member of the American Legion in  
5 Benavides and VFW Post 8931 in San Diego; he is the recipient of a  
6 lifetime membership in VFW by the members of Post 8621 in Alice, and  
7 he is a member of AMVETS in Houston and the Veterans County Service  
8 Officers Association of Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, Over the past five decades, J. O. Barrera has earned  
10 the respect and admiration of countless individuals who have  
11 benefited from his commitment to serving his fellow veterans, and  
12 he is most worthy of recognition for his continuing efforts to aid  
13 and assist these valued Texans; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
15 hereby commend J. O. Barrera for his 52 years of service as Duval  
16 County Veterans Service Officer and extend to him best wishes for  
17 continued success in that role; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
19 prepared for Mr. Barrera as an expression of high regard by the  
20 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.