

By: Rose

H.C.R. No. 191

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, State law stipulates in Section 2165.256,
2 Government Code, that a person specified in a concurrent resolution
3 adopted by the legislature is eligible for burial in the State
4 Cemetery if the State Cemetery Committee finds that the person has
5 made a significant contribution to Texas history and, based on that
6 finding, approves the person's burial; and

7 WHEREAS, Susana I. Aleman, assistant dean for student affairs
8 at The University of Texas at Austin School of Law for more than two
9 decades, has performed an invaluable service to this state through
10 her positive influence in the lives of countless young people, and
11 her request for burial in the State Cemetery merits approval by the
12 committee; and

13 WHEREAS, A leader in the fields of education and law, Dean
14 Aleman became the first woman and first Hispanic to serve as
15 assistant dean for student affairs at the UT Austin School of Law
16 when she accepted the position in 1984; and

17 WHEREAS, During her 21-year tenure she ably counseled
18 thousands of law students on both academic and personal matters and
19 oversaw dozens of graduation services, or Sunflower Ceremonies; in
20 that century-old tradition each graduate is pinned with a
21 sunflower, and Dean Aleman personally handpicked the blooms for
22 nearly every ceremony under her direction; and

23 WHEREAS, This notable Texan joined the staff of the law
24 school shortly after receiving her doctor of jurisprudence degree

1 from UT Austin; she also holds master's degrees in school
2 administration from the former Texas A&I University-Kingsville and
3 in curriculum and instruction from UT Austin; graduating magna cum
4 laude from UT Austin, she earned her bachelor's degree in secondary
5 education in less than three years; and

6 WHEREAS, In addition to advising students, Dean Aleman's
7 record of service to her state includes her outstanding work as an
8 educator; she has taught at every level, from prekindergarten to
9 professional school, and she has also served as a student mentor,
10 sorority advisor, and youth development director, as well as a
11 student council advisor and University Interscholastic League
12 academic director in Brooks County, where she was the valedictorian
13 of Falfurrias High School in 1972; she remains a committed advocate
14 of education, recognizing that it creates opportunities for
15 individuals from all segments of society; and

16 WHEREAS, Her extraordinary dedication to the citizens of
17 Texas is further demonstrated by her service to organizations such
18 as the Hispanic Women's Network of Texas, the Hispanic Chamber of
19 Commerce, Leadership Texas, the State Proprietary Schools Advisory
20 Commission, and the Texas Commission for Judicial Efficiency;
21 active in the State Bar of Texas, she has shared her leadership on
22 its Women in the Profession and Opportunities for Minorities in the
23 Profession Committees and been active in the University
24 Interscholastic League State Appellate and State Executive
25 Committees; and

26 WHEREAS, In 2006, the Travis County Women Lawyers'
27 Association honored Dean Aleman as a Pathfinder, an award that

1 recognizes local women with law degrees who are role models and
2 trailblazers in the community; her numerous honors also include
3 recognition as an Outstanding Leader in 2000-2001 by the Hispanic
4 Faculty/Staff Association of UT Austin and as a Student Bar
5 Association Law Week Dedicattee in 1992, 1998, and 2002; moreover,
6 the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation paid her tribute by
7 naming a scholarship in her honor from 1991 to 1999; and

8 WHEREAS, In light of her outstanding contributions to the
9 Lone Star State, it is fitting that Susana I. Aleman be allowed to
10 designate the State Cemetery as her final resting place; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby authorize the burial of Susana I. Aleman in the State
14 Cemetery, provided that her application for assignment of burial
15 space is approved by the State Cemetery Commission as required by
16 law.