

By: Pena

H.R. No. 352

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Maria Raquel Perez Oliva is leaving her post as  
2 executive director of AVANCE-Rio Grande Valley, bringing to a close  
3 a notable tenure with that organization that has spanned nearly two  
4 decades; and

5           WHEREAS, An esteemed resident of McAllen, Mrs. Oliva has  
6 provided outstanding service to AVANCE-Rio Grande Valley for the  
7 past 18 years, the latter 16 of which she has distinguished herself  
8 in the role of executive director; and

9           WHEREAS, Through her leadership, vision, and dedication,  
10 Mrs. Oliva has greatly helped the nonprofit in its mission to  
11 strengthen and promote South Texas families through an array of  
12 educational and social programs; under her expert direction, the  
13 organization has earned national attention and a number of  
14 well-deserved accolades, and more than 50,000 area residents have  
15 benefited from its offerings, which encompass ESL, civics,  
16 parenting, health education, child development classes, tutoring  
17 and mentoring services, and helping families gain access to  
18 emergency and other services; and

19           WHEREAS, Mrs. Oliva brings to her position deep roots in the  
20 community and a strong educational foundation as a graduate of  
21 McAllen High School, Sam Houston State University, and The  
22 University of Texas at San Antonio, where she earned a master's  
23 degree; a devoted wife and mother of five, she also gives to her  
24 community as a member of Sacred Heart Church, serving as a minister,

1    lector, and catechist; and

2           WHEREAS, Throughout her remarkable tenure with AVANCE-Rio  
3 Grande Valley, Mrs. Oliva has made invaluable contributions to the  
4 people of South Texas, and as she begins the next chapter of her  
5 life, she may reflect with pride on her many achievements, knowing  
6 that her efforts have positively affected the lives of countless  
7 individuals; and

8           WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Pena has justly recognized  
9 Mrs. Oliva by authoring this resolution in her behalf during the  
10 Regular Session of the 80th Texas Legislature; now, therefore, be  
11 it

12           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby commend Maria Raquel Perez Oliva on her 18 years  
14 of exemplary service with AVANCE-Rio Grande Valley and extend to  
15 her best wishes for the future; and, be it further

16           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for Mrs. Oliva as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
18 House of Representatives.