By: Chavez H.R. No. 360

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Jose Rodriguez of El Paso has been named the Region III Government Hispanic Business Advocate of the Year for 2006; and WHEREAS, Awarded by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, this commendation recognizes government officials who have contributed to the growth and excellence of Hispanic entrepreneurs in areas all across the country, with Mr. Rodriguez winning the honor for the region that includes Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas; and WHEREAS, Jose Rodriguez, who is the county attorney for El 

Paso County, received the award for his dedicated efforts to promote and protect small businesses and other enterprises in the county; among his other activities, Mr. Rodriguez focused on the issue of bad checks, helping businesses to gain restitution for any "hot" bank drafts they received and creating a public awareness campaign to help owners avoid this costly danger; and

WHEREAS, The award also recognizes Mr. Rodriguez's participation in the El Paso Fair Lending Coalition, through which he has worked to give local entrepreneurs better access to capital so that they may more easily establish and expand their operations; and

WHEREAS, Jose Rodriguez has been the county attorney since 1993 and has a vast range of legal experience; educated at the George Washington University National Law Center, he worked as a staff attorney for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

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- 1 Development in Washington, D.C., and for Texas Rural Legal Aid, and
- 2 he was a partner in the firm of Rodriguez, Lewis & Collins; his
- 3 involvement in county government began when he served as the legal
- 4 advisor to County Judge Alicia R. Chacon; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Small businesses are crucial to the well-being of
- 6 Texas communities; in assisting entrepreneurs in the El Paso area,
- 7 Jose Rodriguez has provided an influential example of how
- 8 government officials can support local businesspeople, and in so
- 9 doing, he has proven himself a most worthy recipient of this
- 10 prestigious award; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
- 12 Legislature hereby congratulate Jose Rodriguez on being named the
- 13 Region III Government Hispanic Business Advocate of the Year for
- 14 2006 and extend to him best wishes for the future; and, be it
- 15 further
- RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 17 prepared for Mr. Rodriguez as an expression of high regard by the
- 18 Texas House of Representatives.