

By: Castro

H.R. No. 1621

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The west side of San Antonio has found a new ally in
2 the struggle against the blight of graffiti in 19-year-old Fernando
3 Andrade, Jr., a talented young mural artist; and

4 WHEREAS, Graffiti artists, or taggers, have been diminishing
5 the appearance of west side neighborhoods in recent years through
6 their unsightly vandalism; and

7 WHEREAS, Fernando Andrade, a graduate of Jefferson High
8 School, created his first mural in 2004; working with friends and
9 community leaders, he helped to design and create an artwork that
10 covered the graffiti-covered side of a building at the corner of
11 Donaldson Avenue and Manor Drive; and

12 WHEREAS, The colorful mural depicts such San Antonio
13 landmarks as the Little Flower Catholic Church, the Alamo, and the
14 River Walk; the San Antonio River is depicted as flowing into a
15 large pair of hands, symbolizing the cohesiveness of the community;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Since then Mr. Andrade, now majoring in graphic
18 design at San Antonio College, has created a number of murals to
19 combat graffiti and to beautify the west side; after receiving
20 input from community members, he sketches an idea, then works with
21 other students for two to three weeks to create the mural; in many
22 cases, graffiti activity is diminished or stops completely at
23 locations where murals have been painted; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Andrade's mural project has received financial

1 support from San Antonio City Councilwoman Elena Guajardo, the
2 Jefferson Neighborhood Association, the Culebra Park Neighborhood
3 Association, and the San Antonio Office of Cultural Affairs; and

4 WHEREAS, This exemplary young man has used his talent, hard
5 work, and passion for excellence to brighten the lives of his
6 neighbors in San Antonio, and his creativity and commitment have
7 earned him the respect and gratitude of his fellow Texans; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
10 Legislature hereby commend Fernando Andrade, Jr., for his creation
11 of murals on the west side of San Antonio and extend to him sincere
12 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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