

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 1770

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Retired U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant Jose Martinez  
2 of Del Rio has dedicated his life to the service of his country and  
3 his community; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Acapulco, Jose Martinez came to the United  
5 States at the age of 12 and attended school in Connecticut; after  
6 graduating from Woodstock Academy, he joined the United States Air  
7 Force; and

8           WHEREAS, During his distinguished 26-year career in the Air  
9 Force, Master Sergeant Martinez received numerous decorations,  
10 including the Meritorious Service Medal, two Air Force Commendation  
11 Medals, the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with five devices,  
12 and the Vietnam Service Medal with one device, among others; he was  
13 also recognized as the Southern Communication Area Airman of the  
14 Year and the Southern Command Area Outstanding Air Force Executive  
15 Support Superintendent of the Year; and

16           WHEREAS, Master Sergeant Martinez was also active in civic  
17 affairs on base, volunteering for the Joseph P. Kennedy Olympic  
18 Marathon and serving as a translator for the church; he likewise  
19 served on the Base Advisory, Chaplain Fund, Social Action, and Base  
20 Support Councils; and

21           WHEREAS, Even as he was serving his country with such  
22 distinction, Master Sergeant Martinez contributed greatly to his  
23 community; stationed at Laughlin Air Force Base near Del Rio since  
24 1973, he was a member of the San Felipe Lions Club and the Border

1 Federal Credit Union Credit Committee; in addition, he was active  
2 in the Brown Plaza Association, promoting Mexican culture, HAND,  
3 which assisted senior citizens with home repair, and he was a  
4 co-founder of the women's softball team and the youth soccer team;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, In the years since his retirement from the Air Force  
7 in 1981, Master Sergeant Martinez has been a leader in  
8 organizations that support veterans and the military; a member of  
9 the Air Force Sergeants Association and the Non-Commissioned  
10 Officers Association, he has also acted as a judge advocate for the  
11 Veterans of Foreign Wars and as a vice-commander in the American  
12 Legion; and

13 WHEREAS, In his role as first vice-commander of the American  
14 GI Forum, Master Sergeant Martinez has been instrumental in efforts  
15 to maintain that organization's Wall of Honor, where pictures of  
16 deceased veterans from Del Rio and Val Verde County are displayed;  
17 moreover, he has contributed greatly to the efforts of Operation  
18 Troop Family Support, which welcomes home all military personnel  
19 returning from war zones, and he has served as chair of the Veterans  
20 Day Parade and co-chair of the Del Rio Fourth of July parade; his  
21 dedication to the community of Del Rio was recognized in 2000 with  
22 an Appreciation Award presented by the mayor; and

23 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Jose Martinez has enjoyed the  
24 support of his loving wife, his five children, and seven  
25 grandchildren; his family tradition of service to the country  
26 continued with the enlistment of three of his sons in the Air Force;  
27 and

1           WHEREAS, Master Sergeant Martinez has lived an exemplary life  
2 dedicated to the safety and welfare of his country and to the  
3 betterment of his community, and it is indeed fitting to recognize  
4 his many contributions; now, therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby commend retired Master Sergeant Jose Martinez of  
7 the United States Air Force for his long and honorable service to  
8 his nation and his community and extend to him best wishes for  
9 continued success and happiness; and, be it further

10          RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for Master Sergeant Martinez as an expression of high  
12 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.