

By: Pena

H.R. No. 1802

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Robert Capello of Edcouch-Elsa High School has
2 achieved a distinguished place in the annals of Texas high school
3 athletics by winning more than 900 games in the course of his
4 extremely successful career as a basketball coach; this proud son
5 of South Texas has also earned acclaim for mentoring students in
6 other sports and for his notable accomplishments as a high school
7 quarterback, all of which have contributed to a sports legacy that
8 has made him a renowned figure in the Rio Grande Valley for many
9 decades; and

10 WHEREAS, The son of migrant workers, Robert Capello spent his
11 childhood summers helping his family in the fields and attended
12 school in La Sera and later in the Edcouch-Elsa Independent School
13 District; by the time he reached high school, he had developed into
14 a talented athlete, and he helped lead the Edcouch-Elsa Yellow
15 Jackets football team to a perfect 10-0 season; he received
16 all-state honors for his inspired play, and he was later selected as
17 a Rio Grande Valley All-Millennium quarterback representing the
18 class of 1959-1960; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Capello's football skills won him a scholarship
20 to the Texas College of Arts and Industries, where he graduated with
21 a bachelor's degree in biology in 1965; he later undertook graduate
22 studies and earned degrees from Sam Houston State University and
23 Sul Ross State University; and

24 WHEREAS, Robert Capello's coaching career began in 1965 at

1 Mission High School, where he assisted student-athletes on all of
2 the school's sports teams; he subsequently held coaching jobs at
3 five other Texas high schools before returning to his alma mater,
4 Edcouch-Elsa High School; he has worked there for more than a
5 quarter-century, and during that time he has coached football and a
6 variety of other sports in addition to his well-known tenure as the
7 Yellow Jackets' basketball coach; and

8 WHEREAS, Building a monumental career one game at a time,
9 Coach Capello has accumulated a long list of impressive
10 achievements; with 920 basketball victories, he ranks third among
11 the active high school coaches in the country and is counted as the
12 14th most successful high school coach of all time; in 2005, he
13 became the first Hispanic coach in the United States to log 800
14 victories; his Yellow Jackets teams have made more than 20
15 appearances in the state playoffs and have been crowned district
16 champions numerous times; and

17 WHEREAS, This gifted mentor is greatly respected by his
18 peers; he has been selected as district coach of the year 14 times
19 and Rio Grande Valley Coach of the Year twice and has served in
20 leadership roles with the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches,
21 the Texas High School Coaches Association, and the Rio Grande
22 Valley Basketball Coaches Association; in 2003, he was inducted
23 into the Rio Grande Valley Sports Hall of Fame; and

24 WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Coach Capello has enjoyed the
25 support of his wife, Gloria Yarritu Capello, and their four sons,
26 Robert, Rick, Ronny, and Randy, all of whom played basketball on
27 their father's teams during high school; Mr. and Mrs. Capello also

1 take great pride in their 10 grandchildren; and

2 WHEREAS, This admired leader has spent more than four decades
3 coaching high school sports, and his accomplishments can be
4 measured not only in record-book victories but in his ability to
5 teach young athletes the value of teamwork and dedication and the
6 importance of delivering their best effort; through his enlightened
7 leadership, Robert Capello has positively influenced several
8 generations of students at Edcouch-Elsa High School and made a
9 valuable contribution to his community; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
11 Legislature hereby honor Robert Capello for his exemplary record of
12 athletic achievement and extend to him best wishes for continued
13 success; and, be it further

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