

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1848

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Johnny Canales, who has achieved tremendous  
2 popularity in Mexico and the United States as an entertainer and  
3 television host, is now the namesake of a new chapter of the  
4 American GI Forum, the Johnny Canales International Chapter; and

5           WHEREAS, Mr. Canales grew up in Robstown and knew Dr. Hector  
6 Garcia, founder of the forum, personally, as the eminent civil  
7 rights leader was his physician from the time Mr. Canales was a boy  
8 until shortly before Dr. Garcia's death in 1996; and

9           WHEREAS, After graduating from Robstown High School, Mr.  
10 Canales served two and a half years in the U.S. Army; he  
11 subsequently became a well-known musician and host of the *Johnny*  
12 *Canales Show*, which showcased emerging musical talent from both  
13 Mexico and the United States; videos of his show have been donated  
14 to UCLA and to the Smithsonian Institute; and

15           WHEREAS, Strongly supportive of the Latino community, Mr.  
16 Canales has received more than 300 awards for his achievements and  
17 civic contributions; among the honors bestowed on him have been a  
18 tribute from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the National  
19 Presidential Medal from LULAC, and the key to the city of Monterrey,  
20 where more than 100,000 people attended the filming of one of his  
21 shows; and

22           WHEREAS, Based in Robstown, the Canales chapter will be  
23 composed of veterans from every military branch and of citizens  
24 from all walks of life, including members of the U.S. Congress,

1 entertainers, and athletes; serving as commander of the chapter is  
2 Joe Ortiz, civil rights director for the national GI Forum; and

3 WHEREAS, In keeping with the goals of the American GI Forum,  
4 the largest Hispanic veterans organization in the nation, the  
5 Canales chapter will work on veterans issues, support Latino  
6 advancement, and promote education; concerts featuring musical  
7 stars from both sides of the border are planned for the purpose of  
8 funding scholarships for the local community; in addition, the  
9 chapter will seek to secure a national holiday honoring the life and  
10 achievements of Dr. Garcia; and

11 WHEREAS, Texans everywhere can take pride in the  
12 contributions that Johnny Canales has made to Latino culture and to  
13 the Hispanic community, and it is indeed fitting that he be honored  
14 in this fashion by the American GI Forum; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Johnny Canales on the chartering of  
17 the Johnny Canales International Chapter of the American GI Forum  
18 and extend to him sincere appreciation for his outstanding civic  
19 engagement; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for Mr. Canales as an expression of high regard by the  
22 Texas House of Representatives.