

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 1852

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Esteemed attorney, public servant, and political  
2 activist Peter Torres, Jr., of San Antonio passed away on April 27,  
3 2007, leaving behind a memorable legacy of accomplishments; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in San Antonio on December 2, 1933, Pete Torres  
5 served his country as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps during the  
6 Korean War; after returning to San Antonio, he graduated cum laude  
7 with a bachelor's degree in government from St. Mary's University in  
8 1957 and continued on to earn his law degree at St. Mary's while  
9 working as a teacher in the Edgewood Independent School District;  
10 Mr. Torres earned certification in the practice of criminal law,  
11 one of the first lawyers in his city to do so, and he was also  
12 certified in consumer and commercial law and took on many cases  
13 involving consumer issues during his career; and

14           WHEREAS, Seeking a role in local government, Mr. Torres won a  
15 seat on the San Antonio City Council in 1967 and for the next four  
16 years devoted himself to making San Antonio government more  
17 accessible to all of the city's residents; and

18           WHEREAS, His activism also extended to many professional  
19 organizations; he was a founding member and former president of the  
20 Mexican American Bar Association of San Antonio, and he played a  
21 strong leadership role in the legal community through his service  
22 in such positions as chair of the Hispanic Issues Section of the  
23 State Bar of Texas and president of the San Antonio Trial Lawyers  
24 Association; and

1           WHEREAS, Highly respected in his field, this skilled attorney  
2 received many honors over the years, including induction into the  
3 American Board of Trial Advocates and receipt of the Reynaldo G.  
4 Garza Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mexican-American Bar  
5 Association of Texas and the Henry B. Gonzalez Award from the St.  
6 Mary's University Hispanic Law Alumni Association; and

7           WHEREAS, Pete Torres was an inspiring role model for many  
8 people and his distinguished 44-year legal career and his  
9 pioneering work in politics and civic affairs have had a lasting  
10 impact on the city he was proud to call home; now, therefore, be it

11           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Peter Torres, Jr., and  
13 offer condolences to the members of his family: to his wife, Shirley  
14 A. Ehrlich; to his children, Denise Tompkins, Peter Alan Torres,  
15 Tina Cheryl Torres, and Paul A. Torres; to his former wife and the  
16 mother of his children, Yolanda P. Torres; to his grandchildren,  
17 Tahnce Tompkins, Peter Michael Torres, Savannah Rae Torres, and  
18 Gabriella Elizabeth Foglio; to his siblings, Dolores Juliano and  
19 her husband, Johnny, Roger Torres and his wife, Sandy, and Frank  
20 Torres; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it  
21 further

22           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
24 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Pete  
25 Torres.