

By: Smith of Harris

H.R. No. 1885

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Maria Andrea Sanchez is an American success story,
2 and her rise from being a non-English speaking immigrant to a
3 successful Houston attorney is recognized in the April 2007 issue
4 of *More*, a monthly magazine that celebrates the lives and
5 achievements of women age 40 and over; and

6 WHEREAS, Raised in Ciudad Victoria in northeastern Mexico,
7 Ms. Sanchez began her career teaching special education classes at
8 an elementary school in Nuevo Laredo; after two years, she moved to
9 Houston and married Methodist pastor Silverio Sanchez; together,
10 they became the parents of two children, Silverio and Andrea; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Sanchez first taught herself English as a
12 stay-at-home mother by watching American television; she continued
13 her education by earning her GED and garnered the highest score in
14 her class; and

15 WHEREAS, Enrolling in an English as a second language class
16 at Lee College in Baytown, she went on to graduate summa cum laude
17 in 1998 with two associate's degrees, having earned the respect of
18 her professors and fellow students alike; and

19 WHEREAS, On her 40th birthday in August 2000, Ms. Sanchez was
20 sworn in as an American citizen; building on her achievements, she
21 continued her education at the University of Houston-Clear Lake,
22 completing a degree in humanities pre-law in 2001; and

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Sanchez attended the South Texas School of Law
24 while working as a substitute teacher, and she passed the bar exam

1 on her first try, at the age of 45; this dedicated professional now
2 works as an attorney for the Social Security Administration and
3 looks forward to one day creating a nonprofit legal aid clinic for
4 the disadvantaged; and

5 WHEREAS, Maria Sanchez's talent, drive, and determination,
6 along with the love and support of her family, have led to her great
7 success; her energy and community spirit have likewise made her
8 worthy of this national recognition by *More* magazine; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
11 Legislature hereby congratulate Maria Andrea Sanchez on her profile
12 in *More* magazine and extend best wishes to her for continued
13 success; and, be it further

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