

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 2240

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, An accomplished graduate of The University of Texas  
2 School of Law, Diana Saldana was sworn in on March 27, 2007, as a  
3 United States magistrate judge for the United States District Court  
4 in the Southern District of Texas; and

5           WHEREAS, Born in Carrizo Springs to Blanca Hernandez  
6 Rodriguez, Judge Saldana was the third eldest of six children in her  
7 family; from the age of 10, she helped to support her loved ones,  
8 working alongside them seasonally as a migrant farmworker, and she  
9 continued to work in the fields every summer until her second year  
10 of law school; and

11           WHEREAS, Judge Saldana is a graduate of The University of  
12 Texas at Austin with a bachelor's degree in history and government;  
13 in 1997 she graduated from The University of Texas School of Law,  
14 where she was president of the Chicano/Hispanic Law Students  
15 Association; while still in law school, she became the first former  
16 migrant worker to serve as a law clerk for Migrant Legal Services in  
17 Fargo, North Dakota; and

18           WHEREAS, From 1997 to 1998, Diana Saldana clerked for United  
19 States District Court Judge George P. Kazen in Laredo, where she  
20 reviewed all civil case motions and assisted in drafting opinions  
21 and orders in those cases; she then joined the U.S. Department of  
22 Justice in Washington, D.C., as a trial attorney, helping to  
23 enforce Title VII of the Civil Rights Act for the Employment  
24 Litigation Section of the department's Civil Rights Division; and

1           WHEREAS, Returning to Texas, she joined the Houston civil  
2 litigation firm of Beirne, Maynard & Parsons; Ms. Saldana went on to  
3 enforce federal narcotics and immigration laws as an assistant  
4 United States attorney for the Southern District of Texas in  
5 Laredo; in that capacity, she handled some 350 felony cases per year  
6 and participated in more than 20 jury trials; and

7           WHEREAS, In addition to attaining her own professional goals,  
8 Judge Saldana has sought to aid her fellow minority students by  
9 serving as a panelist at conferences stressing the value of  
10 diversity in higher education and appearing in a recruitment video  
11 for the Law School Admission Council; and

12           WHEREAS, The extraordinary journey of Diana Saldana from  
13 field worker to federal judge is an inspiration to all who know her,  
14 as is her commitment to helping others pursue their dreams of a  
15 higher education and a brighter future; now, therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
17 Legislature hereby congratulate Diana Saldana on her appointment as  
18 a U.S. magistrate judge for the United States District Court in the  
19 Southern District of Texas and extend to her sincere best wishes for  
20 continued success in all her endeavors; and, be it further

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