

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 2935

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Mixed-martial-arts athlete Roger Huerta of Texas  
2 has overcome many hardships to achieve success in his sport and more  
3 significantly in life, and his ongoing efforts to reach his goals  
4 are a great testament to his determination, courage, and commitment  
5 to excellence; and

6           WHEREAS, Born on May 20, 1983, in Los Angeles, Mr. Huerta  
7 experienced a childhood marked by poverty, violence, and civil war,  
8 and he was ultimately abandoned by his parents before the age of 13;  
9 placed in the Texas foster care system, he spent several years in  
10 Pharr with the McCarthy family, and their unconditional love and  
11 support provided him with his first glimpse of a brighter future;  
12 later moving to Austin, he became a top wrestler at Crockett High  
13 School, where he met Jo Ramirez, an English teacher, who served as  
14 his advocate and guardian; still his guardian angel, Ms. Ramirez  
15 today is also very proud to be his mom, having adopted Roger as her  
16 son when he was 19 years old; and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Huerta earned a wrestling scholarship to  
18 Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minnesota; while studying  
19 business management, he began to practice mixed martial arts, also  
20 known as "ultimate fighting," a sport that combines wrestling,  
21 boxing, kickboxing, and various elements of traditional martial  
22 arts; after undertaking several amateur fights, and training with  
23 former Ultimate Fighting Championship middleweight champion Dave  
24 Menne, he entered the professional ranks in late 2003; calling

1 himself "El Matador," Mr. Huerta holds a professional fight record  
2 of 19 wins, one loss, and one draw and has won all three of his bouts  
3 in the UFC's 155 pound lightweight division; he is a favorite of  
4 fans, who delight at seeing him compete as a proud Latino fighter in  
5 the UFC's octagon-shaped ring and who marvel at his endurance and  
6 talent; and

7         WHEREAS, In spite of his tremendous success as a professional  
8 mixed martial arts fighter, Mr. Huerta remained committed to  
9 completing his bachelor's degree, and he graduated from Augsburg  
10 College on May 5, 2007; while currently focused on his athletic  
11 career, he is also working toward the release of his own clothing  
12 line named "Fortitude"; and

13         WHEREAS, Drawing support from his family and his faith, Roger  
14 Huerta serves as an inspiring role model for foster youth, Latino  
15 youth, and undeniably all Texans, as a man who has clearly already  
16 won the most significant fight of his life; now, therefore, be it

17         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
18 Legislature and State Representative Eddie Rodriguez hereby  
19 congratulate Roger Huerta on his graduation from Augsburg College  
20 and his success as a professional athlete and extend to him sincere  
21 best wishes for all the good fortune he so richly deserves; and, be  
22 it further

23         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
24 prepared for Mr. Huerta as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
25 House of Representatives.