

By: Gonzales

H.C.R. No. 39

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, During his impressive career in public service,
2 Edinburg Mayor Joe Ochoa has made lasting contributions to the city
3 through his commitment to economic advancement and quality of life;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Mayor Ochoa first won election in 1993 and served
6 for 10 years; he was again elected in 2006, and in the course of his
7 five terms in office, Edinburg has experienced dramatic growth and
8 increased prosperity; assessed tax valuations have grown from \$500
9 million to \$3 billion, while unemployment has decreased from 20
10 percent to 5 percent, the lowest rate in the Rio Grande Valley; and

11 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Mayor Ochoa, Edinburg has
12 succeeded in attracting a wide array of industries, ranging from
13 retail, recreational, and sports facilities to state-of-the-art
14 regional power plants; from 1993 to 2002 alone, building permits
15 increased from \$17 million to \$111 million; significant
16 enhancements to the transportation system include the expansion of
17 McColl, Sugar, and Trenton roads and the construction of the
18 Expressway 281 bypass and the overpass from Pharr to Edinburg; and

19 WHEREAS, The tireless efforts and advocacy of the mayor
20 helped bring to The University of Texas-Pan American both the
21 research division of the Regional Academic Health Center and the
22 cooperative UT Pharmacy School; Mayor Ochoa also helped set the
23 stage for future growth and progress, leading the development of a
24 city master plan entitled Edinburg 20/20; the city has received a

1 number of accolades during his tenure, among them two All-America
2 City awards and two Clean Cities awards; and

3 WHEREAS, Before becoming mayor, this dedicated leader served
4 for 12 years on the Edinburg Consolidated Independent School
5 District Board of Trustees; he is a member and past president of the
6 Edinburg Economic Development Corporation, a co-chair of the I-69
7 Alliance--Highway 281, and a member and former chair of the Hidalgo
8 County Metropolitan Planning Organization, and he has served
9 numerous civic organizations in a variety of capacities; and

10 WHEREAS, Mayor Ochoa, a graduate of The University of Texas
11 at Austin, is a pharmacist and the proprietor of two community
12 pharmacies; he has announced that he will leave public office to
13 attend to his business ventures when his current term ends in May,
14 and as he returns to private life, he leaves a remarkable record of
15 accomplishment that will continue to benefit area residents for
16 years to come; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
18 hereby commend the Honorable Joe Ochoa for his many years of service
19 to the citizens of Edinburg and extend to him best wishes for
20 continued success in all his endeavors; and, be it further

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