

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership
2 School is commemorating in the 2008-2009 school year its fifth year
3 of providing an outstanding education to area youth, and this
4 occasion provides a welcome opportunity to recognize the school as
5 well as its namesake, the Honorable Irma Rangel; and

6 WHEREAS, Opened in the Oak Lawn neighborhood of Dallas in the
7 fall of 2004, the Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School
8 is a magnet program of the Dallas Independent School District;
9 initially serving young women in grades seven and eight, the school
10 now accommodates grades six through 11; it is the first all-girls
11 public school in Dallas and part of a move that allows educators to
12 focus on the different ways boys and girls learn; and

13 WHEREAS, Through leadership seminars, weekly advisory
14 meetings, and partnerships with educational and cultural
15 organizations, the Dallas school provides students with a rigorous
16 course of study that prepares them for college and addresses their
17 developmental needs; teachers work with students following a
18 project-oriented curriculum that emphasizes math, science, and
19 technology, but also offers ample learning opportunities in foreign
20 languages and humanities; in addition to providing an excellent
21 academic curriculum, the school encourages students to develop a
22 strong sense of ethics and civic responsibility and to become
23 leaders in their community; and

24 WHEREAS, It is fitting that such an admirable and progressive

1 institution be named for Irma Rangel, who was a trailblazer and one
2 of the leading proponents of the state's efforts to improve public
3 school and higher education systems; Ms. Rangel taught for 14 years
4 in Texas, California, and Venezuela before changing careers and
5 earning a degree at St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio; after
6 working as an assistant district attorney for two years in Corpus
7 Christi, she returned to her hometown of Kingsville in 1973 to open
8 her own law practice; and

9 WHEREAS, When Ms. Rangel won a seat in the house of
10 representatives in 1976, she became the first Hispanic woman
11 elected to the Texas Legislature; she spent more than 26 years in
12 the Texas House and was the fifth most-senior member of this body at
13 the time of her death in 2003; while serving in the house, she
14 sponsored legislation establishing a pharmacy school for Texas A&M
15 University--Kingsville, now known as the Irma Lerma Rangel College
16 of Pharmacy; and

17 WHEREAS, The first Mexican American woman to be appointed
18 chair of a house committee, Representative Rangel was named chair
19 of the House Committee on Higher Education in 1995, and she served
20 in that role for four consecutive legislative sessions; she was
21 also the first woman elected chair of the Mexican American
22 Legislative Caucus and the first Mexican American to receive the
23 G. J. Sutton Award from the Legislative Black Caucus; and

24 WHEREAS, A passionate advocate for the poor, the needy, and
25 the underserved, Irma Rangel was a true Texas pioneer who worked
26 tirelessly to make a college education accessible to all citizens,
27 and it is indeed appropriate that an important part of her legacy

1 lies with the outstanding young women who are attending the school
2 that bears her name; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
4 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the rich and accomplished life of
5 the Honorable Irma Rangel and honor the students of the Irma Lerma
6 Rangel Young Women's Leadership School on the fifth anniversary of
7 the opening of the school; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas
10 House of Representatives.

Alonzo

Straus	Gattis	Menendez
Allen	Geren	Merritt
Alonzo	Giddings	Miklos
Alvarado	Gonzales	Miller of Comal
Anchia	Gonzalez Toureilles	Miller of Erath
Anderson	Guillen	Moody
Aycock	Gutierrez	Morrison
Berman	Hamilton	Naishtat
Bohac	Hancock	Oliveira
Bolton	Hardcastle	Olivo
Bonnen	Harless	Orr
Branch	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Kaufman	Hartnett	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Heflin	Parker
Burnam	Hernandez	Patrick
Button	Herrero	Paxton
Callegari	Hilderbran	Peña
Castro	Hochberg	Phillips
Chavez	Hodge	Pickett
Chisum	Homer	Pierson
Christian	Hopson	Pitts
Cohen	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Coleman	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Cook	Hughes	Riddle
Corte	Hunter	Rios Ybarra
Crabb	Isett	Ritter
Craddick	Jackson	Rodriguez
Creighton	Jones	Rose
Crownover	Keffer	Sheffield
Darby	Kent	Shelton
Davis of Harris	King of Parker	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Taylor	Smith of Harris
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Smithee
Driver	Kleinschmidt	Solomons
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Laubenberg	Taylor
Edwards	Legler	Thibaut
Eiland	Leibowitz	Thompson
Eissler	Lewis	Truitt
Elkins	Lucio III	Turner of Tarrant
England	Madden	Turner of Harris
Farabee	Maldonado	Vaught
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Marquez	Villarreal
Fletcher	Martinez	Vo
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Walle
Flynn	McCall	Weber
Frost	McClendon	Woolley
Gallego	McReynolds	Zerwas

H.R. No. 301

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 301 was adopted by the House on
February 26, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House