

By: Quintanilla

H.R. No. 345

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of the Mission Valley area of El
2 Paso are gathering at the State Capitol on February 10, 2009, to
3 celebrate Mission Valley Day, and this event provides a fitting
4 occasion to recognize this dynamic community; and

5 WHEREAS, The oldest section of El Paso, Mission Valley was
6 settled in the late 17th century by Spaniards and members of the
7 Ysleta Pueblo tribe; its name is derived from the three Spanish
8 missions that were built in the area during the 17th and 18th
9 centuries; and

10 WHEREAS, These historic missions remain standing and still
11 function as churches today; La Mision de Nuestra Senora de Corpus
12 Christi, or Our Lady of Mount Carmel, was built in Ysleta in 1682;
13 Mision de Nuestra Senora de la Purisima Concepcion del Socorro was
14 built in Socorro in 1759, and Mision de San Elcear was built in San
15 Elizario in 1789; and

16 WHEREAS, Native Americans dwelt for centuries in this harsh
17 desert beside the Rio Grande; in 1581, members of the
18 Rodriguez-Sanchez expedition named a pass between two mountain
19 ranges El Paso del Norte, and the first permanent Spanish colony was
20 founded near present-day San Elizario by Juan de Onate in 1598; the
21 quadricentennial El Paso birthday festival was held at Cougar Park
22 in Socorro in 1998, commemorating the arrival of Don Juan de Onate
23 and his expedition on the Rio Grande in 1598; the Ysleta del Sur
24 Tigua Pueblo Native American tribe is located in Mission Valley;

1 this tribe is one of just three in Texas to have its sovereignty
2 recognized by the United States government; and

3 WHEREAS, Mission Valley provides myriad opportunities for
4 higher education through the El Paso Community College Valle Verde
5 Campus and the Mission Del Paso Campus; adding to the area's appeal
6 are cultural attractions such as the Tigua Indian Cultural Center,
7 Los Portales Museum and Information Center, Licon Dairy, and Indian
8 Cliffs Ranch; and

9 WHEREAS, This notable community has been the birthplace and
10 home to many remarkable Americans, including private investigator
11 Jay J. Armes, professional baseball player Omar Quintanilla, singer
12 Vicki Carr, author Sergio Troncoso, and county judge Alicia Chacon,
13 the first woman to serve in that capacity in a major urban county;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The Mission Valley is a historic area that has made
16 many contributions to the rich cultural heritage of El Paso and the
17 State of Texas; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
19 Legislature hereby extend a heartfelt welcome to the citizens of
20 the Mission Valley area of El Paso on the occasion of Mission Valley
21 Day at the State Capitol.