

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 494

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, After nearly three decades of outstanding public
2 service, Maria del Carmen Botello Gutierrez retired from the Texas
3 Department of Transportation on August 31, 2008; and

4 WHEREAS, Carmen Gutierrez was born in Laredo, but she
5 relocated to Del Rio at an early age; she joined the Del Rio
6 maintenance section of the Texas Department of Transportation in
7 October 1979, shortly after graduating from high school; from her
8 first position as a maintenance technician, Ms. Gutierrez was
9 promoted to positions of greater responsibility, and in 1993, she
10 became a district superintendent; by this time, she had also earned
11 an associate's degree in business management from Southwest Texas
12 Junior College, where she was president of the Alpha Omega Iota
13 chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1999, Ms. Gutierrez became the first female in
15 the agency's history to be appointed to district equipment
16 administrator, and in this role, she oversaw preventive maintenance
17 and equipment safety for eight counties; throughout her tenure, she
18 traveled across Texas representing the Laredo district and made
19 lasting contributions to TxDOT; she initiated preventive
20 maintenance campaigns to promote vehicle and operator safety,
21 launched a vehicle identification program that was later
22 incorporated into the TxDOT equipment operations manual, and
23 produced safety training videos; in addition, she helped develop a
24 hydraulic configuration for statewide use, and she was praised by

1 the occupational safety division for her role in designing a new
2 stepladder for trailers; she also introduced awards to recognize
3 the exemplary preventive maintenance efforts of individuals
4 working in various sections; despite her busy professional life,
5 Ms. Gutierrez enrolled in the agency's tuition assistance program
6 and graduated magna cum laude from Sul Ross State University in
7 2005, with a bachelor's degree in business administration; and

8 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has been affiliated with a
9 number of organizations, including the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce,
10 the Texas Public Employees Association, and the American Federation
11 of State, County, and Municipal Employees; she became certified as
12 a Texas purchaser and an election worker, and she completed the
13 Border Patrol Citizens Academy in 2008; moreover, she has served
14 her community as a volunteer with Safe Kids Val Verde County and the
15 Andale Del Rio community health fair, as a reading tutor, and as a
16 board member of the St. Henry de Osso Family Project, and she has
17 remained active in her church as a catechist and lector; in all of
18 her endeavors, she has enjoyed the love and support of her husband,
19 Ruben, and the couple's two children, Ruben James and Carmen
20 Christina; and

21 WHEREAS, Carmen Gutierrez demonstrated the utmost
22 professionalism and dedication throughout her career, and she may
23 indeed reflect with great pride on her achievements and on the
24 service she has rendered to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be
25 it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
27 Legislature hereby honor Maria del Carmen Botello Gutierrez on her

1 retirement from the Texas Department of Transportation and extend
2 to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Ms. Gutierrez as an expression of high regard by the
5 Texas House of Representatives.