

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A Texas star was forever dimmed with the tragic  
2 passing of the internationally acclaimed queen of Tejano music,  
3 Selena Quintanilla Perez, on March 31, 1995, at the age of 23, and  
4 her death both stunned and saddened the legions of fans around the  
5 world whose lives had been touched by her music; and

6           WHEREAS, Born in Lake Jackson, Texas, on April 16, 1971, this  
7 extremely gifted young woman developed her love for music at an  
8 early age, having begun singing at the age of six and performing  
9 with Los Dinos, the Quintanilla family band, by the age of nine,  
10 following her family's move to Corpus Christi; and

11           WHEREAS, Selena recorded her first album while still in her  
12 early teens and, as her popularity grew, her band became known as  
13 Selena y los Dinos; blessed with the guidance of her father, Abraham  
14 Quintanilla, who served as her manager and booking agent, she  
15 successfully made the transition from teen star to adult artist and  
16 garnered her first serious recognition in 1986 when she was named  
17 Female Vocalist of the Year at the Tejano Music Awards in San  
18 Antonio; and

19           WHEREAS, With artistry and hard work she continued to build  
20 on her success by setting a dizzying pace for herself during which  
21 she would captivate audiences by dancing and singing in her  
22 trademark costumes; far from limiting herself to concert  
23 performances and recording albums alone, this dynamic entertainer  
24 was featured on one of Latin America's most popular shows, *Siempre*

1 *en Domingo*, had appeared on the renowned soap opera *Dos Mujeres*, *Un*  
2 *Camino*, played a singer in the film *Don Juan DeMarco*, and had begun  
3 a new chapter in her multifaceted career with the establishment of a  
4 boutique and hair salon in Corpus Christi and San Antonio; and

5 WHEREAS, Selena became an internationally recognized star  
6 who was especially revered in Mexico, throughout Latin America, and  
7 in her home state of Texas, and, while developing her own phenomenal  
8 career, she was also instrumental in transforming the Tejano music  
9 industry into one of the fastest growing markets of music in the  
10 world; and

11 WHEREAS, Her achievements as an entertainer gave her a means  
12 by which to reach a broader audience, and she put her accessibility  
13 to her adoring fans to good use, empowering women through her  
14 inspiring lyrics and through her community involvement; and

15 WHEREAS, A positive role model for Hispanic youth and women  
16 from all walks of life, Selena gave many young people hope and  
17 encouragement to persevere and to follow their dreams as she did,  
18 and she used her success to encourage students to complete their  
19 education, to stay away from drugs, and to make healthy choices  
20 through her support and involvement with many worthy organizations  
21 and events, including local schools, the DARE program, the Stay in  
22 School Jamboree, and the Coastal Bend AIDS Foundation, to name but a  
23 few; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1994, Selena was awarded a Grammy for the year's  
25 best Mexican-American album, *Selena Live*, and went on to win three  
26 Tejano Music Awards as well, including album of the year, female  
27 vocalist of the year, and female entertainer of the year; and

1           WHEREAS, She was nominated for a Grammy again in 1995 for the  
2 quadruple-platinum *Amor Prohibido*, which produced three  
3 chart-topping singles and sold more than 400,000 copies in the  
4 United States alone, and she swept that year's Tejano Music Awards,  
5 winning in five categories; and

6           WHEREAS, A young woman of tremendous charisma and talent, she  
7 became the first female crossover Latin artist signed to the SBK  
8 sister label to the EMI Latin recording company and, at the time of  
9 her death, was recording her first album in English; that record was  
10 widely expected to establish Selena as a crossover star in the  
11 broader reaches of the pop music world; and

12           WHEREAS, Though she had attained fame and fortune as an  
13 entertainer, Selena remained true to her roots and shared her  
14 culture's long-standing devotion to family, keeping her music a  
15 family affair with her husband, Chris Perez, backing her on guitar,  
16 her sister Suzette Quintanilla Arriaga serving as her band's  
17 drummer, and her brother A. B. "Abe" Quintanilla III assisting her  
18 as her producer, bassist, and cowriter; and

19           WHEREAS, The tragedy of her death was so deeply felt by the  
20 Hispanic community that the *People* magazine issue in honor of  
21 Selena sold a record number of copies, and ultimately spurred the  
22 creation of the popular *People En Espanol*; and

23           WHEREAS, After Selena's death, her life inspired a hit movie,  
24 a Broadway-bound musical, and a successful clothing line; the  
25 soaring popularity of her music resulted in *Billboard* naming her  
26 "Best Selling Latin Artist of the Decade" for the 1990s with 18  
27 million albums sold; and

1           WHEREAS, Though her life was cut tragically short, Selena  
2 Quintanilla Perez left an indelible mark on this world through her  
3 vast achievements as a performer of Tejano music, and it is fitting  
4 that she be remembered on the 14th anniversary of her passing, for  
5 she remains deeply mourned by the adoring family, friends, and fans  
6 she left behind; now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Selena Quintanilla  
9 Perez on March 31, 2009, the 14th anniversary of her death.

Herrero  
Alonzo  
Ortiz, Jr.  
Hunter

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. 496

---

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 496 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 26, 2009.

---

Chief Clerk of the House