

By: Chavez

H.R. No. 1416

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Over the course of four decades, Paul J. Strelzin
2 has been a prominent member of the El Paso community, making his
3 mark in a range of endeavors that have included education, civil
4 rights activism, public address announcing, and radio
5 broadcasting; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in the borough of Brooklyn in New York City in
7 1937, Mr. Strelzin first arrived in West Texas in the late 1960s; he
8 became a teacher, coach, and administrator in the El Paso
9 Independent School District, and he served as principal at H. E.
10 Charles Junior High School, Lincoln Junior High School, and Bowie
11 High School during his 29-year career in education; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Strelzin has been an outspoken supporter of
13 Hispanic civil and educational rights for a half-century, and
14 during his years as principal at Bowie High in the early 1990s, he
15 spoke out against U.S. Border Patrol practices that routinely
16 targeted Hispanic students based merely on their appearance; and

17 WHEREAS, An avid sports enthusiast, he became well-known to
18 El Paso residents during his 18-year tenure as the public address
19 announcer for Miner basketball and football games at The University
20 of Texas at El Paso; he also filled the same role for other teams at
21 the university, for the El Paso Diablos baseball games, and for many
22 of the other professional sports teams in the area; affectionately
23 known as "the Strelz," he electrified crowds with his boisterous
24 cheers and jokes and particularly with his trademark shout of

1 "MMMMMInerball!" at the UTEP basketball games; in recognition of
2 his enduring support for local sports, he is being inducted into the
3 El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Strelzin has used his announcing skills to
5 address important local issues through his work as a radio talk show
6 host; his program *Back Talk* aired for six years on KROD, and he has
7 worked at a number of other stations; and

8 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Mr. Strelzin enjoys the
9 love and support of his family, which includes his wife of more than
10 40 years, the former Darlyne Valle, and their three daughters,
11 Sandra, Sara, and Laura; and

12 WHEREAS, An individual of diverse talents, Paul Strelzin has
13 contributed to his community through his professional achievements
14 and by taking a stand on important issues, and his work has had a
15 lasting influence on many throughout the El Paso area; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
18 Legislature hereby honor Paul J. Strelzin for his outstanding
19 efforts as an educator, activist, and broadcaster and extend to him
20 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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