

By: Anderson

H.R. No. 1916

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Small, family-owned businesses play a vital role in  
2 the life of a Texas community, and in 2008, Jesse's Tortilla Factory  
3 celebrated 50 years of satisfying its loyal customers in Waco; and

4           WHEREAS, Founder Jesse Contreras learned the art and business  
5 of making tortillas from his future mother-in-law, Herma Linda  
6 Nino, at her Waco tortilleria in the early 1950s; he later married  
7 her daughter, Esther; and

8           WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Contreras opened their own business in  
9 1958, making tortillas on a small, one-roller machine and selling  
10 groceries; Mr. Contreras's mother, Bonifacia Contreras, helped out  
11 in the kitchen; and

12           WHEREAS, On a tragic day in 1989, Mr. Contreras bravely  
13 defended his business during a robbery attempt and was shot by the  
14 intruder; he died a month later, but the family tradition was  
15 carried on by his daughter, Alicia Rodriguez, who took over as  
16 manager; and

17           WHEREAS, Today, Jesse's Tortilla Factory continues to thrive  
18 thanks to the hard work and devotion of Ms. Rodriguez and other  
19 members of her family; together they process 2,300 pounds of corn a  
20 day into tortillas, chips, and taco shells, supplying many  
21 restaurants in the Waco area, as well as the concession stands for  
22 Baylor University basketball and football games; and

23           WHEREAS, Half a century after its founding, Jesse's Tortilla  
24 Factory continues to contribute daily to the economy and stands as a

1 testament to the ideals of family, hard work, and tradition; now,  
2 therefore, be it

3         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
4 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of Jesse's  
5 Tortilla Factory in Waco and extend to the family of its founder,  
6 Jesse Contreras, sincere best wishes for continued success and  
7 happiness; and, be it further

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