

By: King of Zavala

H.R. No. 1957

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Carlos
2 Garcia, Sr., of Hondo, who died on March 21, 2009, at the age of 82;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Garcia was born on October 9, 1926; he answered
5 his nation's call to arms as a young man and served a tour of duty in
6 World War II; and

7 WHEREAS, He married Magdalena Gonzales on December 4, 1943,
8 and together he and his wife raised eight sons, Carlos, Robert,
9 Arnulfo, Adolfo, Richard, Simon, Daniel, and the late Louis Roy
10 Garcia; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1953, Mr. Garcia led efforts in Hondo to
12 desegregate the public school system so that his sons would be
13 afforded the same opportunities that other students received; at
14 that time, students of Mexican American descent were enrolled at a
15 separate facility known as the West End School; and

16 WHEREAS, In order to end this form of discrimination, Mr.
17 Garcia helped to bring the American GI Forum to Hondo, and it was
18 through the GI Forum that he and four of his friends filed a lawsuit
19 against Hondo public schools for segregating its students; and

20 WHEREAS, In early 1953, Mr. Garcia and his colleagues
21 traveled to Austin to make their voices heard, and their efforts
22 were rewarded that fall, when Hondo schools were ordered to
23 integrate; and

24 WHEREAS, Because he fought for fairness, Mr. Garcia's

1 grandchildren have attended such notable schools as Sul Ross State
2 University, The University of Texas at San Antonio, Oral Roberts
3 University, Texas A&M University, Tarleton State University, Texas
4 Tech University, and The University of Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, Carlos Garcia was a loving father and husband who
6 stood up for equal rights for all; his efforts made a difference,
7 not only for his children, but also for all succeeding generations,
8 and his life was an inspiring example of the good that one person
9 can accomplish; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Carlos Garcia, Sr.,
12 and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
13 wife, Magdalena; to his sons; and to his other relatives and
14 friends; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Carlos
18 Garcia, Sr.