

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Francisco O. Chapa has rendered exemplary service to
2 his nation, his family, and his community, and he is indeed
3 deserving of recognition for his many accomplishments; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Chapa was born in Sinton on October 10, 1922; he
5 answered his nation's call to duty with service in the U.S. Army
6 during World War II, during which he participated in the Allied
7 D-Day landings at Normandy and fought under General George Patton
8 at the Battle of the Bulge; he received several commendations for
9 his actions, including the Good Conduct Medal, the World War II
10 Victory Medal, the American Theater Ribbon, the
11 European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon with Silver Star
12 Device, and the Purple Heart with one Oak Leaf Cluster; and

13 WHEREAS, After concluding his military service in 1947, Mr.
14 Chapa returned home, and on February 27, 1949, he married his wife,
15 Virginia; the couple raised six children, and over the years, the
16 family has grown to include numerous grandchildren; Mr. Chapa was a
17 longtime civil service employee at Naval Air Station Corpus
18 Christi; after retiring from that position, he went to work for Del
19 Mar College; and

20 WHEREAS, Dedicated to the ideal of equality in education, Mr.
21 Chapa worked with Dr. Hector Garcia and the American G.I. Forum to
22 bring a discrimination lawsuit against the school district serving
23 the cities of Sinton and Odem; the case, *Chapa v. Odem Independent*
24 *School District*, was decided in Mr. Chapa's favor in 1967, and this

1 development marked an important step in the effort to end
2 institutionalized discrimination against Hispanics in the Lone
3 Star State; and

4 WHEREAS, Through his commitment to the greater good and his
5 bravery in both military combat and in the American struggle for
6 civil rights, Francisco Chapa has set an admirable example for
7 future generations, and his work will long be treasured by his loved
8 ones and all who know this admirable Texan; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor Francisco O. Chapa for his contributions
11 as a soldier and citizen and extend to him sincere best wishes for
12 the future; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Mr. Chapa as an expression of high regard by the Texas
15 House of Representatives.

Castro
Ortiz, Jr.

H.R. No. 2069

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2069 was adopted by the House on May 19, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House