

By: Castro

H.R. No. 2069

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.