

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For more than four decades, the Centro de Salud
2 Familiar La Fe has remained committed to improving the quality of
3 life for citizens of El Paso; and

4 WHEREAS, The organization was launched in 1967 by a group of
5 South El Paso parents who wanted to address the housing and health
6 care needs of the families and children living in the Segundo
7 Barrio, which is historically one of the poorest neighborhoods in
8 the nation; La Fe began as a makeshift clinic, and it struggled in
9 its early years, coming close to shutting its doors on many
10 occasions; however, the institution prevailed with the dedication
11 of its volunteers and staff members and the generous support it
12 received from a number of local, state, and national entities,
13 including civic leaders, businesses, and religious groups; and

14 WHEREAS, By the 1990s, La Fe had become one of the first
15 community health centers in Texas to receive accreditation, and it
16 was designated as one of four pilot programs in former President
17 Clinton's Volunteers in Service to America initiative; since that
18 time, La Fe has been praised for its holistic approach and as a
19 successful model for comprehensive community development; and

20 WHEREAS, Today, La Fe is led by CEO Salvador Balcorta, and
21 while it has remained true to its mission of providing vital
22 assistance to residents of the border region, it has also realized
23 its broader vision of becoming a multiservice organization; it has
24 approximately 400 employees and 22 medical, housing, social

1 services, and cultural sites throughout El Paso County, including a
2 child and adolescent wellness center, a cultural and technology
3 facility, and a preparatory charter school; moreover, La Fe has
4 become a major player in El Paso's redevelopment plans, and it
5 continues to grow; among its future projects are a middle school, a
6 culinary arts training kitchen, a credit union, a legal center, and
7 a 91-unit apartment complex designed to serve low-income families
8 and working professionals; and

9 WHEREAS, The Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe is a truly
10 noteworthy social services institution, and its efforts have helped
11 ensure a brighter future for countless Texans; now, therefore, be
12 it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
14 Legislature hereby honor the Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe on its
15 outstanding contributions to the community and extend to all those
16 associated with the organization sincere best wishes for continued
17 success with their important work; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for La Fe as an expression of high regard by the Texas
20 House of Representatives.

Chavez

H.R. No. 2101

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2101 was adopted by the House on May 21, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House