By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 2109

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Jesse T. Perez of Atlanta, Georgia, is receiving the
 National Award at the inaugural Flavors of Passion Awards in Dallas
 on July 23, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Created by second-generation restaurateur and chef Felipe Gaytan, the Flavors of Passion Awards celebrate Latino culinary culture by recognizing outstanding Latino chefs from across Texas and from around the nation and the world; the awards pay tribute to the authenticity, variety, creativity, and overall excellence of each honoree's contributions to this vital heritage; and

11 WHEREAS, A native of San Antonio, Jesse Perez grew up 12 watching his mother and grandmother prepare handmade tamales and 13 tortillas; he earned a degree in cultural and ethnic history at the 14 University of Michigan and then returned to San Antonio to work at 15 Francesca's at Sunset, where by 2002, he became chef de cuisine; a 16 rising star in Southwestern cuisine, he is now executive chef at 17 Nava in Atlanta; and

18 WHEREAS, The diversity and innovative spirit of Latino 19 cuisine contribute greatly to American culture overall, and Mr. 20 Perez merits special acclaim for his achievements and for setting 21 an outstanding example for the next generation of Latino chefs; 22 now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
 Legislature hereby congratulate Jesse Perez for winning the

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National Award at the first Flavors of Passion Awards and extend to
 him sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and,
 be it further

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