

By: Chavez

H.R. No. 2192

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Juan Aranda, Jr., has distinguished himself as a
2 dedicated civic leader and labor advocate in El Paso and beyond; and

3 WHEREAS, Born on August 16, 1923, Juan Aranda lost his father
4 at a young age, and he began working at an ice plant in the evenings
5 while he attended school during the day to help support his mother
6 and siblings; Mr. Aranda later served overseas in the U.S.
7 military, and on his return, he gained employment with Southern
8 Pacific Railroad, at which time he launched his lifelong
9 involvement in the labor movement; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Aranda went on to join the American Smelting and
11 Refining Company (ASARCO), and in 1950, he became a member of the
12 International Union of Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers; he was
13 active at the local, state, and national levels of the organization
14 and held various leadership roles, and he participated in the Mine &
15 Mill National Negotiating Committee, the steering committee, the
16 political action committee, and many others; after the organization
17 merged with the United Steelworkers of America, Mr. Aranda served
18 as president of USWA Local 509 for more than two decades, and he was
19 also a vice president of the Texas AFL-CIO; in addition, he was a
20 staff representative for USWA for 17 years, and in this capacity he
21 worked on contracts and conducted special assignments in Peru and
22 Canada; and

23 WHEREAS, Through the years, this esteemed Texan has received
24 accolades from various groups, including the local Democratic

1 Party, the United Way, and the Labor Council for Latin American
2 Advancement, and he has been recognized by former presidents Jimmy
3 Carter and Bill Clinton; highly regarded in his community, Mr.
4 Aranda organized a Labor Day breakfast, which has continued for
5 nearly four decades, and he is known by many as "The General"; he
6 was also on the board of the United Way for six years, and he has
7 served as vice president of District 13 of LCLAA; and

8 WHEREAS, A champion for labor, Juan Aranda has demonstrated
9 an unwavering commitment to ensuring the rights of all people, and
10 he may indeed take justifiable pride in his notable achievements
11 and contributions; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
13 Legislature hereby commend Juan Aranda, Jr., for his many years of
14 service as a leader in the labor movement and extend to him sincere
15 best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

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