

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 2293

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Helen Araujo Sierra of El Paso is commemorating her
2 90th birthday on June 4, 2009, and this memorable milestone is truly
3 worthy of special recognition; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on that date in 1919 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the
5 former Elena Araujo was the 11th and youngest child of Jose Salvador
6 Araujo and Cruz Melendez; she spent the first decade of her life in
7 Tulsa, but after the tuberculosis epidemic of the 1920s took the
8 lives of four of her siblings, the family moved to Albuquerque for
9 its arid climate; she attended the Third Ward School, where she
10 skipped two grades because of her advanced reading and writing
11 skills, and Washington Junior High and subsequently went to work to
12 help support her family; and

13 WHEREAS, She relocated with her family to El Paso in the early
14 1940s and went to work as a ticket clerk at the Greyhound Bus
15 Station; it was there that she met her future husband, Pablo Edmundo
16 "Eddie" Sierra, who served as the manager of the Knox Hotel and who
17 had recently returned from service in World War II; the Sierras were
18 married on April 8, 1948, at Holy Family Church, and were later
19 blessed with three children, Christine, Edmund, and Theresa; Mr.
20 Sierra became the owner and manager of the hotel gift shop, while
21 Mrs. Sierra was a devoted homemaker and mother; the couple shared
22 more than 43 years together before Mr. Sierra's death in 1991; and

23 WHEREAS, Still residing in her own home, Mrs. Sierra today is
24 the treasured matriarch of a family that has grown to include three

1 granddaughters, Paloma, Andrea, and Cassandra; moreover, she
2 remains an avid reader and corresponds regularly with family and
3 friends; and

4 WHEREAS, Helen Sierra is beloved and admired by all who are
5 privileged to know her, and she may indeed reflect with pride on her
6 nine decades of life well lived; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate Helen Araujo Sierra on the occasion
9 of her 90th birthday and extend to her best wishes for continued
10 happiness; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Mrs. Sierra as an expression of high regard by the
13 Texas House of Representatives.