

By: Chavez

H.R. No. 2499

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Arturo S. Rodriguez, president of the United Farm
2 Workers, is celebrating his 60th birthday on June 23, 2009; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Rodriguez assumed the leadership of the UFW in
4 1993, following the death of Cesar Chavez; during his presidency,
5 he has worked tirelessly to continue building the union that Mr.
6 Chavez founded and to develop it into a powerful voice for
7 agricultural laborers; Mr. Rodriguez is committed to achieving such
8 vital goals for farmworkers as decent pay, health coverage, job
9 security, retirement benefits, protection against toxic chemicals
10 and other substances, and guarantees against discrimination and
11 sexual harassment; in addition, he strives to make it easier for
12 workers to organize and negotiate union contracts; and

13 WHEREAS, Under his able leadership, the UFW has grown in
14 membership and won a number of important victories; among its
15 recent successes have been agreements with one of the nation's
16 largest vegetable growers, as well as the country's biggest
17 strawberry operation, rose producer, winery, and dairy; and

18 WHEREAS, Born in San Antonio, Mr. Rodriguez earned a
19 bachelor's degree from St. Mary's University in 1971 and a master's
20 degree in social work from the University of Michigan in 1973; he
21 became active with the UFW grape boycott while an undergraduate and
22 organized support for farmworker boycotts during his student days
23 in Michigan; a resident of Keene, California, Mr. Rodriguez has
24 worked full-time with the UFW since 1973; and

1 WHEREAS, One of this nation's foremost labor leaders, Arturo
2 Rodriguez continues to render outstanding service in behalf of
3 farmworkers in the United States, and it is indeed fitting that he
4 be recognized for his significant contributions to the advancement
5 of social and economic justice; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
7 Legislature hereby congratulate Arturo S. Rodriguez on the occasion
8 of his 60th birthday and commend him for his unwavering efforts to
9 secure a brighter future for America's farmworkers and their
10 families; and, be it further

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