

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lionel Aron Peña of Edinburg has distinguished
2 himself as a highly regarded attorney and civic leader; and

3 WHEREAS, The son of Baltazar and Guadalupe Peña, Lionel Aron
4 Peña was born on October 16, 1935, in Elsa, and he went on to become
5 the valedictorian of the Edcouch-Elsa High School Class of 1954; he
6 also joined the National Guard, achieving the rank of sergeant, and
7 he was president of the pre-law society at The University of
8 Texas--Pan American, graduating with honors from the institution in
9 1957; three years later, he earned a juris doctor degree from the UT
10 Austin School of Law; and

11 WHEREAS, Settling in Edinburg, Mr. Peña joined the firm of
12 Rankin, Kilgore, Cherry, and Martinez, and in 1962, he and his
13 partners launched a practice that would become Peña, McDonald,
14 Prestia, and Ornelas; in the late 1970s, Mr. Peña was admitted as an
15 attorney and counselor of the U.S. Court of Appeals and the Supreme
16 Court of the United States, and he was certified in criminal law by
17 the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in December 1981; he later
18 obtained licensure to practice in the Southern and Western District
19 Courts of Texas and in Michigan, Illinois, and Arkansas; he was the
20 attorney for both the City of Edinburg and the Edinburg
21 Consolidated School District for 15 years, and he represented the
22 Edinburg Hospital for two decades; he was also on the board of the
23 Hidalgo County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association; and

24 WHEREAS, Active in many local organizations, Mr. Peña is a

1 past president of the Edinburg Jaycees, the Edinburg Chamber of
2 Commerce, the Corpus Christi Diocesan Council of Catholic Men, and
3 the Lions Club, which he has been involved with for 40 years; he has
4 also served on the board of the Rio Grande Valley Partnership and on
5 the Edinburg City Commission, and he was mayor pro tempore for six
6 years; and

7 WHEREAS, A loving patriarch, Mr. Peña has been married to his
8 wife, Sylvia, since 1958, and they have shared the joy of welcoming
9 into their family six children, Lionel Aron, John Eric, Mark, Evie,
10 Jeff, and Louis Dominic; he takes great pleasure in spending time
11 with his loved ones, including his 25 grandchildren and 5
12 great-grandchildren, and in traveling, playing tennis, and
13 attending the theater; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Peña has devoted himself to his family, his
15 profession, and his community, and he is an inspiration to all those
16 who are privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
18 Legislature hereby honor Lionel Aron Peña on his notable
19 achievements and his contributions to his community and extend to
20 him sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and,
21 be it further

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

Peña

H.R. No. 2828

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2828 was adopted by the House on June 1, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House