

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 472

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Raul Humberto Yzaguirre, cofounder of New America Alliance, an American Latino business initiative; and

WHEREAS, A prominent American civil rights activist, Raul Yzaguirre now works primarily as an advocate for the creation of a political union between the United States, Mexico, and Canada through a variety of nonprofit advocacy groups; and

WHEREAS, Raul Yzaguirre grew up in the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas; he is a former president and chief executive officer of the National Council of La Raza; under his leadership, from 1974 to 2004, the organization grew tremendously; during his tenure, he built the regional advocacy group with 17 affiliates into a 35,000-member organization with more than 300 affiliates and revenues exceeding \$42 million; in 2005, the council named its headquarters building in Washington, D.C., in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Also named in his honor is the Raul Yzaguirre Policy Institute, which operates out of The University of Texas--Pan American; the institute's goal is to inform policy, and the leaders who frame it, for the benefit of the Hispanic community and the nation as a whole; Mr. Yzaguirre is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on its member selection committee; he was appointed to the position of presidential professor of practice in community development and civil rights at Arizona State University and serves on the board of advisors for the university's North American Center of Transborder Studies; and

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WHEREAS, In 1979, Mr. Yzaguirre was the first Hispanic to receive a Rockefeller Public Service Award for Outstanding Public Service; in 1993, he received the Order of the Aztec Eagle, the highest honor awarded by the Mexican government to a citizen of another nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend Raul Yzaguirre on his outstanding leadership in civil rights and foreign relations and on his invaluable contributions and service to our country; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 19, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate