

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 708

WHEREAS, For 150 years, many families have come together to celebrate their faith at the First United Methodist Church of Rio Grande City; and

WHEREAS, The history of this treasured institution dates back to 1859, when services were first held in the homes of area citizens; in 1875, Clemente E. Vivero was appointed the church's first minister, and four years later, construction began on the congregation's first facility; and

WHEREAS, At the Annual Conference of 1882, the Reverend Alex Sutherland reported the completion of the new building, which cost \$2,800 to construct; through the years, the church has kept pace with the changing needs of the community it serves by expanding, and a number of additions have been made, including a parsonage and an annex; the church is also home to a kindergarten program that has served Valley residents since 1947; and

WHEREAS, For 150 years, the First United Methodist Church of Rio Grande City has served as a source of strength and inspiration to those who have worshiped there, and the church stands as a tribute to the dedication of its members, past and present, who have devoted their time, prayers, and financial resources to ensure its continued existence as a house of God; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby recognize the First United Methodist Church of Rio Grande City on the occasion of its 150th anniversary and extend to all of its members sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the church as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Zaffirini

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 23, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate