

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, A full and productive life drew to a close with the  
2 passing of esteemed civic leader Pete Almodova Gallego, Jr., of  
3 Alpine on March 4, 2010, at the age of 85; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Alpine on February 17, 1925, Mr. Gallego was  
5 the son of Pete Russell Gallego and Victoria Almodova; he came of  
6 age during World War II and served in the United States Army in the  
7 Pacific theater, and he earned the Victory and American Theater  
8 ribbons, a Good Conduct Medal, and a Bronze Star, among other  
9 honors; during his freshman year at Sul Ross State University, he  
10 met Elena Peña, and the couple married the following year; they  
11 later became the parents of four treasured children, Imelda,  
12 Rebecca, Pete, and Robert; and

13           WHEREAS, The first member of his family to graduate from  
14 college, Mr. Gallego earned his bachelor's degree in business  
15 administration; he joined the family restaurant business, then  
16 known as the Green Cafe, and began serving his community in a  
17 variety of leadership roles; helping Latinos gain access to banking  
18 services, he shared his accounting skills with a credit union  
19 established by a local Catholic priest; he became the first  
20 treasurer of Our Lady of Peace Credit Union, which operated for many  
21 years from the dining room table in his home and then from his cafe  
22 so members could stop by in the evening after their work; he later  
23 served as president, chair, and member of the board as the credit  
24 union grew to become the Alpine Community Credit Union, an

1 institution with more than \$10 million in assets; and

2         WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan became the first Latino trustee  
3 of the Alpine Independent School District in 1959 and was elected to  
4 four more consecutive three-year terms; he played a key role in the  
5 desegregation of area schools and in the construction of a new high  
6 school, the addition of a wing to Central Elementary School, the  
7 remodeling of the old high school into a united junior high, and the  
8 closure of Centennial School; although some customers boycotted his  
9 restaurant to protest integration, Mr. Gallego remained steadfast;  
10 the school closure and the construction of a new interstate also  
11 affected the business, and he moved it across town, becoming the  
12 first Latino to own commercial property on Holland Avenue; and

13         WHEREAS, Gallego's Mexican Food Restaurant won a loyal  
14 following among college students in its new location, and  
15 Mr. Gallego expanded its operations, shipping chiles rellenos,  
16 tamales, and masa to stores around the state; through the years, he  
17 helped many young people achieve their dreams by giving them jobs  
18 and donating money for their college funds; in 2001, four years  
19 after his retirement, he was named Paul Forcheimer Business Person  
20 of the Year in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the  
21 community; he continued to volunteer for worthy causes and enjoyed  
22 spending time with his family, maintaining his properties, and  
23 riding his mowing tractor; and

24         WHEREAS, A man of great generosity, integrity, and  
25 determination, Pete A. Gallego is deeply missed by the host of  
26 people whose lives he touched, but his legacy of achievement  
27 continues to resonate in the community he loved and served so well;

1 now, therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas,  
3 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Pete  
4 Almodova Gallego and extend sincere sympathy to his loved ones: to  
5 his wife of more than six decades, Elena Peña Gallego; to his  
6 daughters, Imelda Gallego Garcia and her husband, Jose Garcia,  
7 R.Ph., and Rebecca P. Gallego, M.D.; to his son, the Honorable Pete  
8 P. Gallego, and his wife, Maria Elena Ramon; to his grandchildren,  
9 Maria Imelda, Maria Elena, and Briana Garcia, Cristina P. Gallego,  
10 and Nicolas Miguel Ramon Gallego; and to his other relatives and  
11 many friends; and, be it further

12       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
14 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of  
15 Pete A. Gallego, Jr.

Coleman  
Hochberg  
Castro  
Martinez  
Walle

Straus	Gonzalez	Munoz, Jr.
Aliseda	Gooden	Murphy
Allen	Guillen	Naishtat
Alonzo	Gutierrez	Nash
Alvarado	Hamilton	Oliveira
Anchia	Hancock	Orr
Anderson of Dallas	Hardcastle	Otto
Anderson of McLennan	Harless	Parker
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Patrick
Beck	Hartnett	Paxton
Berman	Hernandez Luna	Pena
Bohac	Hilderbran	Perry
Bonnen	Hochberg	Phillips
Branch	Hopson	Pickett
Brown	Howard of Fort Bend	Pitts
Burkett	Howard of Travis	Price
Burnam	Huberty	Quintanilla
Button	Hughes	Raymond
Cain	Hunter	Reynolds
Callegari	Isaac	Riddle
Carter	Jackson	Ritter
Castro	Johnson	Rodriguez
Chisum	Keffer	Schwertner
Christian	King of Parker	Scott
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sheets
Cook	King of Zavala	Sheffield
Craddick	Kleinschmidt	Shelton
Creighton	Kolkhorst	Simpson
Crownover	Kuempel	Smith of Harris
Darby	Landtroop	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Larson	Smithee
J. Davis of Harris	Laubenberg	Solomons
S. Davis of Harris	Lavender	Strama
Deshotel	Legler	Taylor of Collin
Driver	Lewis	Taylor of Galveston
Dukes	Lozano	Thompson
Dutton	Lucio III	Torres
Eiland	Lyne	Truitt
Eissler	Madden	Turner
Elkins	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farias	Margo	Villarreal
Farrar	Marquez	Vo
Fletcher	Martinez	Walle
Flynn	Martinez Fischer	Weber
Frullo	McClendon	White
Garza	Menendez	Woolley
Geren	Miles	Workman
Giddings	Miller of Comal	Zedler
Gonzales of Hidalgo	Miller of Erath	Zerwas
Gonzales of Williamson	Morrison	

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 15 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on June 28, 2011.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 15 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate on June 28, 2011.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor