

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 113

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Manuel P. Guillen, a lifelong resident of Rio Grande  
2 City who passed away on December 19, 2002, at the age of 85,  
3 rendered notable service to the people of Starr County; and

4           WHEREAS, Born on November 27, 1917, Mr. Guillen was the first  
5 in his family to graduate from Rio Grande City High School;  
6 afterward, during the Great Depression, he joined the Civilian  
7 Conservation Corps and worked on CCC projects across the country;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor,  
10 Mr. Guillen and his brother, Mario, enlisted in the armed forces;  
11 while Mario Guillen served in Europe, Mr. Guillen was deployed to  
12 the Pacific, where he participated in retaking a number of  
13 strategic islands; following the surrender of Japan in September  
14 1945, he was stationed on one of the inner Japanese islands, and  
15 during that time he came to develop a deep respect for the Japanese  
16 people; and

17           WHEREAS, When Manuel and Mario Guillen resumed civilian life,  
18 they embarked together on a cattle enterprise, founding the Guillen  
19 Brothers Ranch in Starr County; initially, they leased land for  
20 their operation, but as time went by, they were able to purchase one  
21 parcel after another and establish their own holdings; and

22           WHEREAS, In addition to sharing in the operation of the  
23 ranch, Mr. Guillen worked for a number of years at First State Bank  
24 of Rio Grande City; after his retirement from that institution, he

1 joined the board of directors of Citizens State Bank in Roma;  
2 altogether, he spent more than four decades in the banking  
3 industry, stepping down from his post as a director only when  
4 illness intervened; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Guillen also served on the board of directors of  
6 the Medina Electric Cooperative, where his business acumen was a  
7 valued asset; and

8 WHEREAS, In all that he undertook, Mr. Guillen endeavored to  
9 do the responsible thing; devoted to his faith, he gave generously  
10 of his time and talents to the Knights of Columbus; he served for  
11 many years as the local council's financial officer, and he  
12 especially enjoyed the projects that the organization carried out  
13 in support of Immaculate Conception School in Rio Grande City; and

14 WHEREAS, Manuel Guillen's life was rich in purpose and  
15 accomplishments, and he could take pride in his many contributions  
16 to the continuing development of his community; now, therefore, be  
17 it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
19 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory  
20 of Manuel P. Guillen; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Manuel  
24 P. Guillen.