

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The death of Austin restaurateur Joe Limon Avila on  
2 January 9, 2011, at the age of 81, has brought a great loss to his  
3 loved ones and many admirers throughout the community; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Austin on April 14, 1929, Mr. Avila learned  
5 the restaurant business early on when he began delivering bread at  
6 the age of six for his parents, Sophia and Florentino De La'O; they  
7 had started a bakery out of their house during the Great Depression,  
8 and Mr. Avila quit school after seventh grade to work full-time in  
9 the family business; coming of age during the Korean War, he proudly  
10 served his country in the United States Army and earned the Purple  
11 Heart and other decorations; and

12           WHEREAS, From childhood, Mr. Avila cherished the dream of  
13 owning a restaurant; through hard work and perseverance, he was  
14 able to open the Sun Bakery on East Seventh Street with his mother  
15 and stepfather in 1964, and by the following year, he had purchased  
16 the business from them and named it Joe's Bakery & Coffee Shop; and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Avila and his wife, the former Pauline Robles,  
18 added Mexican food to the cafe's menu, and they worked tirelessly to  
19 make Joe's Bakery a success; for years, Mr. Avila began baking in  
20 the mornings and then ran the kitchen, spending most of his waking  
21 hours at the restaurant; after his retirement, he continued to  
22 frequent the popular eatery, greeting customers who ranged from  
23 neighborhood regulars to politicians, musicians, and other  
24 well-known people; always warm and smiling, Mr. Avila treated

1 everyone who walked through the door like family, and his  
2 establishment became a center of social and civic life in the  
3 community; his mischievous sense of humor was always on display,  
4 and he enjoyed sharing stories about days gone by with diners and  
5 employees alike; and

6 WHEREAS, This beloved icon remained humble through the years  
7 and demonstrated an enduring commitment to East Austin and its  
8 residents; he was a mentor and role model to the young people he  
9 employed, and he frequently donated catering services for events at  
10 Zavala Elementary School and the Pan American Recreation Center; on  
11 Cinco de Mayo in 1993, he was honored by community groups with an  
12 Unsung Hero Award; and

13 WHEREAS, A devoted family man sustained by a deep faith, Mr.  
14 Avila instilled his strong values in his two daughters, Rose Ann and  
15 Carolina, and he brought them into the restaurant business along  
16 with other relatives; and

17 WHEREAS, Joe Avila blurred the lines between work and  
18 pleasure, serving as a goodwill ambassador for his business as well  
19 as for the community he was proud to call home; now, therefore, be  
20 it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
22 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Joe Limon Avila and  
23 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his wife  
24 of 56 years, Pauline Avila; to his daughters, Rose Ann Maciel and  
25 her husband, Robert, and Carolina Avila; to his grandchildren,  
26 Regina Estrada and her husband, Felipe, and Robert Maciel, Jr.; to  
27 his great-grandchildren, Izabella and Evalina Sophia Estrada; to

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1 his sisters, Josephine Cavazos and Hilda Lovern; and to a host of  
2 other relatives and friends; and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joe Avila.

Rodriguez

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

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 149 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 7, 2011.

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Chief Clerk of the House