

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Emilio De Los Santos III has been chosen as the 2010  
2 recipient of the Dan Garcia Memorial Achievement Award presented by  
3 the Veterans County Service Officers Association of Texas; and

4           WHEREAS, This prestigious annual honor recognizes the  
5 accomplishments of a county veterans service officer or assistant  
6 officer who has performed above and beyond the call of duty, who has  
7 been involved in all aspects of veterans' affairs, and who has been  
8 active in the community the officer serves; honorees must also  
9 display a record of continuing education and a patriotic spirit;  
10 and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. De Los Santos earned the commendation as a  
12 result of his notable work to assist veterans in South Texas in  
13 achieving improved access to medical care and other services; he  
14 has been a leader in the movement to establish a U.S. Department of  
15 Veterans Affairs hospital in the Rio Grande Valley so that veterans  
16 who live in the area do not need to make a five-hour trip to San  
17 Antonio for appointments; moreover, he helped galvanize local  
18 support for Proposition 8, a Texas constitutional amendment passed  
19 in 2009 to authorize funding for the construction and operation of  
20 VA hospitals; with the Veterans Alliance of the Rio Grande Valley,  
21 he has contributed to the creation of a VA health care center in  
22 Harlingen, and he continues to press for a full-service facility in  
23 the region; and

24           WHEREAS, Mr. De Los Santos has been the director of the

1 Hidalgo County Veterans Service Office since 2002; in that role, he  
2 helps veterans and their family members in preparing claims for  
3 compensation, insurance, pensions, educational benefits, and  
4 medical care, and he helps them with appearances at Board of  
5 Veterans' Appeals hearings; he also raises awareness about programs  
6 and benefits available for former service members through public  
7 speaking engagements and organizes outreach initiatives such as  
8 veteran enrollment fairs and welcome-home celebrations for  
9 returning military personnel; and

10 WHEREAS, Committed to keeping elected officials in Austin and  
11 Washington informed of the needs of those he serves, Mr. De Los  
12 Santos has testified before the Texas Legislature and the United  
13 States Congress and promoted state legislation related to a  
14 homestead exemption for disabled veterans; he is a member of the  
15 regional board of directors of the Veterans County Service Officers  
16 Association of Texas and received the Outstanding Service Officer  
17 of the Year award in 2007; in addition, he was recently appointed by  
18 President Obama to the Selective Service System Local Board, and in  
19 2010 he was chosen to be part of the VISN 17: VA Heart of Texas  
20 Health Care Network Veterans Advisory Board; and

21 WHEREAS, A U.S. Army veteran who served during the Vietnam  
22 War era, Mr. De Los Santos was employed for three decades by the  
23 Weslaco Independent School District; he holds a master's degree in  
24 education and has also worked as Region One Adult Basic Education  
25 Service Center director; he has further distinguished himself as  
26 president of the Weslaco Mid Valley Lions Club, as commander of VFW  
27 Post 10464 in Weslaco, and through his involvement in Weslaco youth

1 sports leagues; and

2           WHEREAS, The dedication and enthusiasm Emilio De Los Santos  
3 has brought to his pursuits have made a positive difference in the  
4 lives of numerous Rio Grande Valley residents who valiantly served  
5 their nation in the armed forces, and his efforts in their behalf  
6 are truly deserving of recognition; now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
8 Legislature hereby honor Emilio De Los Santos III on being chosen as  
9 the recipient of the 2010 Dan Garcia Memorial Achievement Award  
10 presented by the Veterans County Service Officers Association of  
11 Texas and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success;  
12 and, be it further

13           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for Mr. De Los Santos as an expression of high regard by  
15 the Texas House of Representatives.

Pena

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

H.R. No. 381

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 381 was adopted by the House on March 3, 2011, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House