

By: Gutierrez

H.R. No. 575

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, John Anthony Riojas, an esteemed member of the San
2 Antonio Police Department and SWAT Team, was lost to his loved ones
3 and community far too soon when he died on February 3, 2001, and
4 today, we celebrate the life of this courageous Texan; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on November 17, 1963, to Isidoro and Kathleen
6 Riojas, "Rocky" Riojas graduated from St. Gerard Catholic High
7 School, where he was a linebacker on the football team; as a young
8 man, he enjoyed participating in the Boy Scouts and he was an
9 accomplished boxer, earning the title of Outstanding Boxer from the
10 South Texas Amateur Boxing Association of the United States Amateur
11 Boxing Federation; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Riojas fulfilled a longtime dream in November
13 1989, when he graduated from the San Antonio Police Training
14 Academy; he served with the Street Crimes Attack Team and Repeat
15 Offenders Patrol before being appointed to the SWAT Team in 1995,
16 and during his notable career, he was awarded the Purple Heart for
17 his valorous actions; and

18 WHEREAS, On February 2, 2001, Officer Riojas was shot in the
19 line of duty following the pursuit of a suspect; in his memory, the
20 77th Texas Legislature passed H.B. 1600, which amended the Penal
21 Code to better safeguard our state's law enforcement officers; and

22 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Officer Riojas shared a
23 special bond with his wife, Sandra, and he delighted in his role as
24 father to his young children, Victoria and John; and

1 WHEREAS, Those individuals who dedicate themselves to
2 protecting and defending their fellow citizens are deserving of the
3 heartfelt gratitude of every Texan, and the colleagues and loved
4 ones of Rocky Riojas will forever carry his memory close in their
5 hearts; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of John Anthony "Rocky"
8 Riojas and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to
9 his wife, Sandra Riojas; to his daughter, Victoria Renee Riojas; to
10 his son, John Michael Riojas; and to his other relatives and many
11 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 adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John
15 Riojas.