

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 705

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Alberto Gonzalo Garcia was posthumously
2 recognized by the Austin History Center in conjunction with its
3 exhibit *Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis*
4 *County*; and

5 WHEREAS, Honoring the important contributions made by
6 Mexican Americans to Central Texas, the Austin History Center and
7 its association joined with the Austin Public Library to organize
8 the show, which ran from August 21, 2010, through January 16, 2011;
9 *Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County*
10 celebrated the pioneering achievements of 32 remarkable men and
11 women and provided the public with an opportunity to learn more
12 about their lives; and

13 WHEREAS, One such individual, Dr. Alberto Gonzalo Garcia, was
14 honored for his achievements in public health; a graduate of the
15 American Medical Missionary College in Battle Creek, Michigan, he
16 earned a second medical degree from Tulane University School of
17 Medicine in New Orleans and went on to become the first Mexican
18 American physician to establish a practice in Austin; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Garcia joined the staff of Brackenridge
20 Hospital, and he worked to ensure that Mexican Americans received
21 medical services; active in a number of community organizations, he
22 helped to establish a workers' group, Obreros Mexicanos, and the
23 local chapter of the Comision Honorifica Mexicana, which
24 represented Mexican nationals in the United States; he encouraged

1 others to acquire citizenship and exercise the right to vote, and
2 along with his wife, he published the town's first Spanish-language
3 newspaper, *La Vanguardia*; and

4 WHEREAS, Before his passing in 1962, Dr. Garcia also
5 benefited his fellow residents by supporting the Austin Public
6 Library and advocating for better educational opportunities for
7 Mexican Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, Through his outstanding accomplishments, Dr.
9 Alberto Garcia made a positive difference in his community, and his
10 legacy is a source of pride and inspiration to many people; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dr. Alberto Gonzalo
14 Garcia, a Mexican American Trailblazer of Austin and Travis County.