

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 718

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Gloria Mata Pennington was recognized by the Austin  
2 History Center in conjunction with its exhibit *Mexican American*  
3 *Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County*; and

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

12 WHEREAS, One such individual, Gloria Mata Pennington, was  
13 honored for her achievements in public health; as a member of the  
14 Travis County Democratic Women's Organization, she was appointed to  
15 serve on the board of the Lakeside Senior Activity Center and  
16 embarked on a long career working in behalf of the elderly; she  
17 served as manager of senior programs for the City of Austin's Parks  
18 and Recreation Department for more than two decades and became the  
19 first Hispanic woman on Austin television as host of the  
20 long-running "Senior Forum" on KXAN-TV; in addition, she hosted  
21 "Positive Aging" on KIXL; and

22 WHEREAS, Highly regarded for her expertise on senior  
23 citizens' issues, Ms. Pennington was appointed to represent her  
24 congressional district at the White House Conference on Aging in

1 1995; she has served her community in a wide variety of ways through  
2 the years, including volunteering for the Austin Independent School  
3 District, serving as president of Gullett Elementary School's PTA,  
4 and serving on the City Council of PTAs; moreover, she participated  
5 in political campaigns for John Trevino, Richard Moya, and Gonzalo  
6 Barrientos; among other accolades, she has received the Excellence  
7 in Writing Award from the Texas Association of Bilingual Education;  
8 she serves today on the Austin Arts Commission and several other  
9 community boards and commissions; and

10 WHEREAS, Gloria Mata Pennington has made a positive  
11 difference in her community, and her outstanding accomplishments  
12 are a source of pride and inspiration to many people; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Gloria Mata Pennington on her  
16 selection as a Mexican American Trailblazer of Austin and Travis  
17 County and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be  
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for Ms. Pennington as an expression of high regard by the  
21 Texas House of Representatives.