

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 724

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mario Cruz was recognized by the Austin History
2 Center in conjunction with its exhibit *Mexican American Firsts:
3 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, Mario Cruz, was honored for his
13 achievements in the humanities; a graduate of Angelo State
14 University, he earned his master's degree in guidance and
15 counseling from Texas Tech University and began his career in 1971,
16 becoming the first Hispanic school counselor in the Austin
17 Independent School District; and

18 WHEREAS, While working at Johnston High School, Mr. Cruz
19 encouraged the institution's leaders to include Chicano history
20 lessons in all social studies classes, and he was instrumental in
21 hiring more Hispanic teachers, counselors, and administrators; he
22 also benefited students at St. Edward's University as a summer
23 counselor with the Migrant Summer Program for 20 years; retired
24 from AISD since 2002, he has returned to the district to serve as a

1 part-time counselor at Zavala Elementary School; and

2 WHEREAS, Mario Cruz has made a positive difference in his
3 community, and his outstanding accomplishments are a source of
4 pride and inspiration to many people; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Mario Cruz on his selection as a
7 Mexican American Trailblazer of Austin and Travis County and extend
8 to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for Mr. Cruz as an expression of high regard by the Texas
11 House of Representatives.