

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 730

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Valentino M. Luna was posthumously recognized by the
2 Austin History Center in conjunction with its exhibit *Mexican*
3 *American 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, Valentino Luna, was honored for
13 his achievements in sports; a stellar boxer, Mr. Luna was born in
14 Austin on February 14, 1930, and first took up the sport at the age
15 of 16; his talent developed quickly and he entered the Golden Gloves
16 state tournament after only two bouts; before he turned
17 professional, he held the amateur titles of Austin Golden Gloves
18 Champion, Texas Golden Gloves State Champion of 1947 and 1949, and
19 Texas Amateur Athletic Federation Champion, in addition to being
20 the National Golden Gloves runner-up of 1949; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1983, Austin boxers named him the best boxer to
22 come out of Austin; a hard-hitting southpaw, he was known for his
23 strong counterpunch and long reach, and his victories were called
24 "Valentine's Massacres"; he retired from professional boxing with a

1 record of 21-2 but stayed active in the sport, sharing his knowledge
2 and expertise as boxing coach at the South Austin Recreation
3 Center; and

4 WHEREAS, Through his outstanding accomplishments, Valentino
5 Luna made a positive difference in his community, and his legacy is
6 a source of pride and inspiration to many people; now, therefore, be
7 it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Valentino M. Luna, a
10 Mexican American Trailblazer of Austin and Travis County.