

By: Gonzales of Hidalgo

H.R. No. 1057

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Stephanie Alvarez of The University of Texas-Pan
2 American has received the Outstanding Latino/a Faculty in Higher
3 Education (Teaching Institutions) Award from the American
4 Association of Hispanics in Higher Education; and

5 WHEREAS, An assistant professor of Spanish, Dr. Alvarez
6 joined the faculty in the Department of Modern Languages and
7 Literature in 2006; she engages her students through innovative
8 approaches and by fostering lively, challenging discussions; in
9 addition to participating in research endeavors with faculty
10 members, her students have the opportunity to take part in her
11 Cosecha Voices project, co-taught with renowned poet Tato Laviera;
12 this program allows students from migrant farmworking families to
13 write about their experiences and create digital presentations for
14 the community; in November 2010, Dr. Alvarez guided a group of
15 graduate students in conducting archival research at the Center for
16 Puerto Rican Studies and Ellis Island in New York; and

17 WHEREAS, This dynamic educator led the effort to revise and
18 revitalize the Mexican American Studies program at UTPA, and she
19 now serves as codirector; she created a committee to develop a new
20 degree plan for undergraduate majors and minors, as well as a
21 graduate certificate; since 2009, the number of Mexican American
22 Studies majors at the school has risen dramatically, and 17
23 students are pursuing the graduate certificate; and

24 WHEREAS, The author and editor of numerous publications and

1 papers, Dr. Alvarez earned her bachelor's degree in Spanish from
2 the University of South Alabama and her master's degree in Spanish
3 from St. Louis University in Missouri; she was a lecturer at the
4 University of Michigan and the National Hispanic University before
5 earning her doctorate in Spanish and graduate certificate in Latin
6 American studies from the University of Oklahoma in 2006; among
7 numerous accolades, she has received the 2009 Regents Outstanding
8 Teaching Award from The University of Texas System; and

9 WHEREAS, Stephanie Alvarez has inspired and empowered her
10 students through her commitment to increasing cultural knowledge,
11 encouraging self-expression, and developing research and
12 analytical skills; she is indeed deserving of this prestigious
13 honor; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Stephanie Alvarez on her
16 receipt of the Outstanding Latino/a Faculty in Higher Education
17 (Teaching Institutions) Award and extend to her sincere best wishes
18 for continued success; and, be it further

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