

By: Madden

H.R. No. 1443

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Edward and Alda Nahas of Plano, Texas, are  
2 celebrating a notable milestone on April 30, 2011, as that date  
3 marks the 40th anniversary of Mr. Nahas's arrival in the United  
4 States; and

5           WHEREAS, The son of Lebanese citizens Gabriel and Mary Nahas,  
6 Edward Gabriel Nahas was living with his family in Libya, where his  
7 father held a sensitive communications position, when on September  
8 1, 1969, a military coup overthrew the government; both foreigners  
9 and Christians, Edward Nahas, his parents, and his brothers, Tony  
10 and Maurice, were expelled from Libya with just 24 hours' notice and  
11 forced to leave behind their friends, home, and livelihoods; after  
12 several months of uncertainty, the family received the support of  
13 the American Embassy and secured their new home in the United  
14 States; and

15           WHEREAS, Alda Butros, the daughter of John and Mary Butros of  
16 Beirut, Lebanon, came to the United States in 1975 to marry Edward  
17 Nahas; shortly thereafter, her parents and her siblings, Rima and  
18 Laurine Butros, lost their home in the turbulence of the Lebanese  
19 civil war and joined her in America; and

20           WHEREAS, Settling in Pasadena, California, the Nahas family  
21 opened their own service stations, and Edward Nahas registered for  
22 the Selective Service, enrolled in the local community college, and  
23 took a second job working nights as a crane operator; he then  
24 advanced to a sales position in a Los Angeles-based steel company

1 while Mrs. Nahas worked as a coordinator for Walt Disney Studios  
2 post-production services; Mr. Nahas became a U.S. citizen in 1977  
3 and Mrs. Nahas followed suit in 1984; and

4       WHEREAS, The couple moved to Texas in 1985, and Mrs. Nahas  
5 focused on raising their two treasured children, Cynthia Marie and  
6 John Mark, as her husband accepted an offer at a home-building  
7 company and later founded his own construction enterprise, American  
8 Homes; he went on to open a granite import and fabrication business  
9 in 2001, and Mrs. Nahas went to work for a hotel management and  
10 purchasing company, advancing to become a senior project manager;  
11 Mr. and Mrs. Nahas were active during this time in their children's  
12 school, church, and extracurricular endeavors, including youth  
13 soccer, and they also helped create a crime watch program in their  
14 neighborhood; in addition, Mr. Nahas volunteered to assist local  
15 law enforcement in antiterrorism investigations; and

16       WHEREAS, This inspiring pair experienced the joy of seeing  
17 their children graduate from The University of Texas at Austin;  
18 continuing her education, their daughter, Cynthia, earned a degree  
19 from the UT School of Law, while their son, John Mark, earned a  
20 master's degree in real estate development from the University of  
21 Southern California; and

22       WHEREAS, Edward and Alda Nahas appreciated the value of their  
23 newfound life and liberty and capitalized on every opportunity to  
24 attain success and happiness for their family, and their hard work  
25 and perseverance in pursuit of these goals are truly worthy of  
26 recognition; now, therefore, be it

27       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas

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1 Legislature hereby commemorate the 40th anniversary of Mr. Nahas's  
2 immigration to the United States and extend to Edward and Alda Nahas  
3 sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it  
4 further

5         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
6 prepared for Mr. and Mrs. Nahas as an expression of high regard by  
7 the Texas House of Representatives.