

By: Pena

H.R. No. 2116

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The untimely death of Jaime J. Zapata of Edinburg on
2 December 16, 2010, at the age of 35, brought a great loss to his
3 family, friends, and fellow firefighters; and

4 WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of Edinburg, "Bino" Zapata was
5 the son of Romeo and Carmen Zapata; he graduated from Edinburg High
6 School, where he was the starting linebacker for the Mighty Bobcat
7 football team and a member of the baseball team; in his senior year,
8 he was voted Most Valuable Player on the football team, and he
9 received numerous awards at the sports banquet; and

10 WHEREAS, This civic-minded Texan joined the institutional
11 division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and he was
12 employed for 13 years as a correctional officer in maximum security
13 at the McConnell Unit and then at the Lopez State Jail; deeply
14 committed to his work, he strove to support the agency's mission to
15 protect the public, promote positive change in offender behavior,
16 help offenders reintegrate into society, and assist victims of
17 crime; Mr. Zapata served as an officer in the Community Service
18 Department, transporting offenders to surrounding communities and
19 providing supervision on projects benefiting public land and
20 buildings; for his contributions to Estero Llano Grande Park, he
21 received accolades from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Dedicated to public safety, Mr. Zapata joined the
24 Edinburg Volunteer Fire Department and served as a lieutenant; he

1 found his true calling and went on to become a full-time firefighter
2 for the City of Mission; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Zapata was a parishioner at Sacred Heart
4 Catholic Church; above all, he was devoted to his wife, Janie, and
5 his five children, Debra, Dalayna, Kylea, Kalea, and Bo; and

6 WHEREAS, Bino Zapata lived a rich and purposeful life
7 centered around his family, his work, and his community, and he will
8 forever hold a special place in the hearts of those who were
9 fortunate enough to know him; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Jaime J. "Bino"
12 Zapata and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family:
13 to his wife, Janie Zapata; to his children, Debra Saldana, Dalayna
14 Saldana, Kylea Rae Zapata, Kalea Sue Zapata, and Bo Cambel Zapata;
15 to his parents, Romeo and Carmen Zapata; to his sister, Elizabeth
16 Ann Truszkowski; to his grandmother, Eustolia Zapata; and to his
17 many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
20 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bino
21 Zapata.