

By: Quintanilla

H.R. No. 2162

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Alfonso Cardenas, a lifelong resident of El Paso who
2 died on May 4, 2011, at the age of 80, positively impacted the lives
3 of countless people, and he leaves behind a record of service that
4 his loved ones can remember with pride; and

5 WHEREAS, Over the course of his nearly 30 years with the
6 Socorro Independent School District, Al Cardenas nurtured and
7 inspired not only his beloved students but also a number of
8 colleagues, for whom he was a respected mentor; he retired in 1996
9 after an exceptional career, during which he served as a teacher,
10 counselor, director of federal programs, assistant principal, and
11 principal; Mr. Cardenas held the latter post initially at
12 Escontrias Elementary, then at the newly built William D. Slider
13 Middle School, and finally at Myrtle Cooper Elementary; and

14 WHEREAS, Affectionately known as "Poncho," "Mr. C.," and "El
15 Jefe" (the Boss), Mr. Cardenas held dear a wide circle of friends,
16 and his home was the scene of many fondly remembered gatherings;
17 those lively occasions included the annual, highly anticipated
18 "three-campus reunion, cookout, and swim party," which brought
19 together staff and faculty from each school where he served as
20 principal; in addition to the esteem he enjoyed as a result of his
21 work in the SISD, Mr. Cardenas won deep affection and appreciation
22 for his volunteer efforts as a Little League umpire, youth
23 basketball referee, and cofounder of the Golden Gloves at San Juan
24 Community Center; his role in establishing the latter program won

1 him induction into the El Paso Boxing Hall of Fame in 2002; Mr.
2 Cardenas's interest in sports also encompassed football, and he was
3 a fervent fan of the Dallas Cowboys; and

4 WHEREAS, Poncho Cardenas led a full and productive life, and
5 those who were blessed to share in his love and friendship will
6 forever hold him close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Alfonso Cardenas
9 and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
10 wife, Mari Cardenas; to his children and their spouses, Alma
11 Orozco, Brenda and Mike Castaneda, Debbie and Robert Velasquez,
12 Kraig and Marcy Belcher, Lisa and Roland Cardenas, Michael and
13 Veronica Valles, and Al Cardenas, Jr., and Mary Cardenas; to his
14 mother, Estela Cardenas; to his brother and sister, Leo Cardenas
15 and Alice Roybal; to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and
16 to his many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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