

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 2702

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Rabbit's Lounge in East Austin, a favorite hangout  
2 of local politicians for more than four decades, is closing its  
3 doors in Spring 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Named for its owner, Rosalio "Rabbit" Duran,  
5 Rabbit's opened in 1969 as Chicano political activities were  
6 gaining momentum in the city, along with the civil rights movement  
7 and antiwar activism; and

8 WHEREAS, With its iconic mural of Cesar Chavez on an exterior  
9 wall, Rabbit's soon became a regular gathering place for political  
10 activists; among the elected officials whose campaigns used the  
11 lounge as a center of operations were John Trevino, Austin's first  
12 Hispanic city council member, Richard Moya, the first Mexican  
13 American Travis County commissioner, and State Senator Gonzalo  
14 Barrientos; and

15 WHEREAS, Rabbit's Lounge also became known through the years  
16 for its biennial *sine die* festivities, at which members of the  
17 legislature and their staff celebrated the end of the legislative  
18 session; and

19 WHEREAS, This beloved institution has greatly contributed to  
20 the political and cultural legacy of East Austin, and Rabbit Duran  
21 may take justifiable pride in the vital role he has played in the  
22 life of his community; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
24 Legislature hereby honor Rosalio "Rabbit" Duran for the memorable

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1 gathering spot he created where so many good times were shared,  
2 careers were launched, and friendships were made over the past 42  
3 years; and, be it further

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