

By: Munoz, Jr.

H.R. No. 102

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, School board members play an integral role in the  
2 education of our children, and the observance of School Board  
3 Recognition Month in January 2013 provides a welcome opportunity to  
4 honor the trustees of the La Joya Independent School District; and

5 WHEREAS, Situated in the western part of Hidalgo County, La  
6 Joya ISD includes 37 schools and serves a student population of  
7 nearly 30,000; the seven school board members who oversee this  
8 district work closely with Dr. Alda T. Benavides, superintendent,  
9 as well as with parents, teachers, and community leaders to ensure  
10 an optimal learning environment for all students; and

11 WHEREAS, The board is led by president Juan "J. J." Pena, Jr.,  
12 vice president Esperanza "Espie" Ochoa, and secretary Joel Garcia;  
13 Mr. Pena is a real estate broker and developer; Ms. Ochoa is a  
14 reading specialist and former teacher who served as a statewide  
15 coordinator for The University of Texas at Austin Institute for  
16 Public School Initiatives, and Mr. Garcia is a local business owner  
17 and vice president of the Palmview Chamber of Commerce; and

18 WHEREAS, Other members of the board include Johnn Valente  
19 Alaniz, the city manager of Palmview, who was first elected in 2006,  
20 and newly elected trustees Jesus "Chuy" Avendano, an insurance  
21 agent and a former Penitas City Council member, Juan Jose "J. J."  
22 Garza, an administrator with the La Joya Housing Authority, and  
23 Oscar "Coach" Salinas, who has served as mayor pro tem and city  
24 commissioner in Sullivan City; and

1           WHEREAS, Each of these notable Texans demonstrates a truly  
2 exemplary commitment to area students and brings a set of skills and  
3 experience that contributes immeasurably to the successful  
4 operation of the district; now, therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
6 Legislature hereby honor the members of the La Joya Independent  
7 School District Board of Trustees on the occasion of School Board  
8 Recognition Month and extend to them sincere appreciation for their  
9 outstanding service to the community; and, be it further

10          RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for the La Joya Independent School District Board of  
12 Trustees as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of  
13 Representatives.