

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 157

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas athletes have a long history of excelling at
2 the highest levels of competition, and Leonel Manzano of Austin
3 furthered that tradition with his silver-medal performance in the
4 men's 1,500-meter run at the 2012 London Olympics; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Dolores Hidalgo, Guanajuato, Mexico, Leo
6 Manzano moved to the United States at the age of four; he began
7 demonstrating his passion for running at an early age, and while a
8 student at Marble Falls High School, he won nine individual state
9 track and field titles; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Manzano continued his dominance in distance
11 events at The University of Texas at Austin, claiming five NCAA
12 national championship titles and capping his collegiate career by
13 earning the Men's Track Athlete of the Year award from the U.S.
14 Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association; the holder of
15 four school records, he became the first Longhorn to run the 1,500
16 meters in the Olympics when he took part in the 2008 summer games in
17 Beijing; that same year, he began competing in professional events,
18 and since then he has achieved numerous podium finishes in major
19 races around the world; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2012, this superb athlete renewed his Olympic
21 quest by finishing first in the 1,500 meters at the U.S. trials; at
22 the London games, he made a strong showing in his first round and
23 semifinal races and then matched up against the world's top
24 distance competitors in the final; rounding the last turn in sixth

1 place, he unleashed a blazing kick to the finish, streaking down the
2 backstretch to pass four runners in the last 40 meters and capture
3 the silver medal; and

4 WHEREAS, With that exceptional effort, Leo Manzano became the
5 first U.S. athlete since 1968 to win an Olympic medal in the men's
6 1,500 meters, and his skill and determination have made him an
7 inspiring role model for young athletes and a source of great pride
8 to the residents of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
10 Legislature hereby congratulate Leo Manzano on winning the silver
11 medal in the 1,500-meter run at the 2012 London Olympics and extend
12 to him best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Mr. Manzano as an expression of high regard by the
15 Texas House of Representatives.