

By: Nevarez

H.R. No. 386

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, With the passing of Arturo C. Gonzalez on December
2 21, 2012, at the age of 104, the city of Del Rio lost a remarkable
3 man who made it his life's work to seek equality and justice for
4 those less fortunate; and

5 WHEREAS, Arturo Gonzalez was born in Del Rio to Sergio
6 Gonzalez, Sr., and Genoveva Castro on October 4, 1908; he attended
7 Guadalupe Catholic School and went on to Del Rio High School, where
8 he participated in the Wildcats Baseball Club; a chance encounter
9 with an ad for the American Correspondence School of Law on the back
10 of a discarded magazine led Mr. Gonzalez to what would become his
11 professional goal--to ensure that the poor had able legal
12 representation and protection in the courts; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Gonzalez learned a great deal about the law by
14 observation, serving as an interpreter for the court of Judge Brian
15 Montague in the early 1930s; the local Rotary Club loaned Mr.
16 Gonzalez \$300 to travel to Austin and take the state bar exam, and
17 after receiving his license in February 1935, he set up an office
18 above Ross Drug Store on Canal Street; and

19 WHEREAS, While building his practice, Mr. Gonzalez joined the
20 League of United Latin American Citizens, and he later served as
21 president of LULAC Council No. 18; in an effort to develop public
22 housing, he went door-to-door seeking key information from
23 households, and he became the first executive director of the Del
24 Rio Housing Authority; along the way, he answered his nation's call

1 to duty with service in the United States Army during World War II;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Gonzalez enjoyed the love
4 and support of his wife, Blanca, who predeceased him, as well as
5 their five children; he was an enthusiastic fan of AAA minor league
6 baseball franchises and an avid listener of local radio station
7 XERF; although he rarely ventured too far away from his office, he
8 took pleasure in trips to Cuba to visit his wife's family; and

9 WHEREAS, Arturo Gonzalez inspired countless people with his
10 drive, leadership, and commitment to the greater good, and he will
11 always be remembered with admiration and affection; now, therefore,
12 be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Arturo C. Gonzalez and
15 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
16 children, Daisy Arledge, Kathy Benson and her husband, Bob, Arthur
17 Gonzalez and his wife, Becky, Sergio Gonzalez and his wife, Diana,
18 and Blanca Larson and her husband, Frank; to his grandchildren, Sol
19 and Yvette Arledge, Diana, Greg, Jim, and Kurt Benson, Eric,
20 Monica, Rene, and Miguel Gonzalez, America, Daisy, and Sergio
21 "Nene" Gonzalez, and Adrian and Chelsy Larson; and to his other
22 relatives and friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Arturo C.
26 Gonzalez.