

By: Howard

H.R. No. 680

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Wanda Montemayor, an art therapist and school
2 counselor, initiated and led an effort in 2011 to create a mosaic
3 mural at Deep Eddy Pool in Austin; and

4 WHEREAS, This impressive public art installation depicts the
5 100-year history of the oldest swimming pool in Texas with a
6 colorful array of tiles and mirror shards; along with
7 black-and-white illustrations of patrons in period attire, the
8 1200-square-foot design includes discrete sections of text
9 describing a time when the pool featured carnival acts such as a
10 trapeze and a diving horse; and

11 WHEREAS, The mural is the end result of a half-decade of
12 research, planning, fund-raising, and dedicated work on the part of
13 Ms. Montemayor and more than 60 volunteers, including children and
14 teens from eight Austin area schools; motivated by a desire to
15 encourage self-expression and to help students develop a sense of
16 belonging, she tasked them with crafting and laying the blue and
17 green clay tiles and inscribing them with personal messages about
18 their lives and their plans for the future; and

19 WHEREAS, An eighth-grade counselor at O. Henry Middle School,
20 Ms. Montemayor has championed the use of art therapy to help at-risk
21 children for more than a decade; she holds master's degrees in art
22 therapy and professional counseling and has shared her expertise
23 with such organizations as Safe Place, Con Mi MADRE, and Big
24 Brothers Big Sisters; and

1 WHEREAS, Through her involvement in this worthwhile
2 initiative, Wanda Montemayor created both a vibrant tribute to a
3 historic Texas landmark and a creative outlet for young people, and
4 she may reflect with great pride on her role in an artistic endeavor
5 that will be admired for years to come; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
7 Legislature hereby commend Wanda Montemayor for overseeing the Deep
8 Eddy mural project and extend to her sincere best wishes for
9 continued success in all her endeavors; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for Ms. Montemayor as an expression of high regard by the
12 Texas House of Representatives.