

By: Burnam

H.R. No. 1051

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Those Texans who give of their time and talents to
2 benefit the larger community make the world a better place, and
3 Richard Cervantes Alvarado of San Antonio, who passed away on
4 January 21, 2013, at the age of 72, was indeed one such person; and

5 WHEREAS, The son of John and Amalia Cervantes Alvarado,
6 Richard Alvarado was born on May 27, 1940, on San Antonio's West
7 Side; he graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1958 as a
8 National Merit Scholar and went on to earn his bachelor's degrees in
9 history and government from Texas A&M University, where he was a
10 member of the Corps of Cadets; and

11 WHEREAS, After spending a year teaching high school history
12 and a year with the federal civil service, Mr. Alvarado joined the
13 United States Foreign Service in 1964; he served in Bolivia and
14 Greece, as well as in Vietnam, where he was an advisor on emergency
15 relief and helped resettle more than 15,000 refugees of the war; for
16 his efforts there, the Vietnamese government awarded him the
17 Vietnamese Social Welfare Medal and the Vietnamese Ethnic
18 Minorities Affairs Medal, and the U.S. Department of State
19 presented him with the Vietnam Civilian Service Award; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1969, Mr. Alvarado returned to Texas with his
21 wife, Hanh, and accepted a fellowship in the inaugural class of the
22 Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at The University of
23 Texas at Austin; he worked for more than two years with the Economic
24 Opportunities Development Corporation in San Antonio; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1974, Mr. Alvarado joined the staff of the United
2 Way of San Antonio and Bexar County; he implemented a number of
3 innovative advances to its infrastructure and donation investment
4 and was named vice president in 1988; in 1991, he took on the role of
5 executive director of the United Way of El Paso County and helped
6 strengthen the participation of Latinos in the organization; he
7 eventually returned to San Antonio to lead the Nonprofit Resource
8 Center of Texas as director of consulting services, and although he
9 officially retired in 2005, he continued working with groups until
10 the end of his life; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Alvarado was invited to share his expertise with
12 the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas in 2003; he was
13 appointed to its board, and in 2005, he was elected to represent
14 Texas on the group's national board; he also served ACLU Texas for a
15 year as interim executive director; other organizations that
16 benefited from his leadership were Healthy Futures of Texas, Youth
17 Orchestras of San Antonio, Health Care for the Homeless Coalition
18 Board, Target '90 Health and Human Service Council, the Edgewood
19 Family Network, and the Children's Association for Maximum
20 Potential; he was also a member of the San Antonio AIDS Consortium,
21 the Alamo Area Council of Governments' Regional Health and Human
22 Services Advisory Committee, the Funding Information
23 Center-Management Assistance Program Advisory Committee, the
24 Injury Control Project, the Imagineer Awards Committee, and the
25 NPAC Fund Distribution and Public Policy Development Committees;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, In his leisure time, Mr. Alvarado enjoyed gardening,

1 experimenting with new recipes from across the world, and listening
2 to an eclectic assortment of music; he loved spending time with his
3 family and especially cherished the relationship he nurtured with
4 his sons, Christopher and Marc; and

5 WHEREAS, Described as a wise and gentle warrior, Richard
6 Alvarado made a meaningful difference in the lives of many people in
7 Texas and beyond, and his contributions will be remembered and
8 admired for years to come; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Richard Cervantes
11 Alvarado and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family:
12 to his sons, Christopher and Marc; to his brothers, Rodolfo and his
13 wife, Elvira, and John and his wife, Melody; to his sister, Marina,
14 and her husband, Raul; to his six nieces and nephews; to his former
15 wife, Hanh Alvarado; and to his other relatives and many friends;
16 and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Richard
20 Alvarado.