

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 1053

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and  
2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends  
3 of Rodolfo Roque Gaona, Sr., of Corpus Christi, who passed away on  
4 March 4, 2013, at the age of 89; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Aquilla on November 18, 1923, to Donaciano  
6 D. Gaona and Alejandra Cisneros-Roque Gaona, Rudy Gaona was the  
7 sixth of 10 children in his family, and he began working as a farm  
8 laborer at an early age to help support his loved ones; he served in  
9 the armed forces during World War II, becoming a corporal in the  
10 306th Bomber Group in England; for his service, he received the  
11 European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the World War II  
12 Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and a Distinguished Unit  
13 Badge; after the war, he continued to serve this nation in the U.S.  
14 Air Force Reserve for seven years; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Gaona married the love of his life, Perla Ofelia  
16 Garcia, on September 14, 1947, and they initially made their home  
17 together in Edroy before moving to Corpus Christi; industrious  
18 throughout his life, he drove long-distance tractor-trailers for a  
19 time and subsequently became a valued employee of the Reynolds  
20 Metals plant in Ingleside, where he worked for more than 38 years;  
21 he was a proud member of United Steelworkers Union Local No. 4813,  
22 which inspired him to advocate for social and civil change through  
23 the political process; he also championed education, stressing its  
24 importance to his children, and he proved that it is never too late

1 to learn by returning to school and earning his GED at the age of 64;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Gaona was one of the founding members of Holy  
4 Family Catholic Church and sang in its choir with his wife; he also  
5 enjoyed singing corridos and spending time outdoors; above all, he  
6 cherished his family, which grew to include five children, Rodolfo,  
7 Robert, Elizabeth, Roland, and Cynthia, and two grandchildren,  
8 Jasmin and Gabriela; and

9 WHEREAS, Rudy Gaona lived a life rich in the intangibles that  
10 matter most, and he will long be remembered with deep admiration by  
11 all those who were privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Rudy Gaona and extend  
14 sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his children,  
15 Rodolfo Gaona, Jr., Elizabeth Ida Gaona, Roland Adam Gaona, and  
16 Cynthia Beverly Gaona; to his granddaughters, Jasmin Jacquelyn  
17 Rivera-Portillo and Gabriela Angele Barrera; to his brother, Jose  
18 Gaona; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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