

By: Marquez

H.R. No. 1468

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Diana Natalicio is celebrating her 25th
2 anniversary as president of The University of Texas at El Paso in
3 2013, and the occasion presents a fitting opportunity to recognize
4 this remarkable woman; and

5 WHEREAS, Raised in St. Louis, Missouri, Dr. Natalicio was a
6 first-generation college student at Saint Louis University; she
7 went on to earn a master's degree in Portuguese and a doctorate in
8 linguistics from The University of Texas at Austin; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Natalicio joined UTEP in 1971 and served as a
10 professor of linguistics, chair of the modern languages department,
11 dean of liberal arts, and vice president for academic affairs
12 before becoming the university's president in 1988; she is the
13 longest-serving president of a four-year public university in Texas
14 and the first woman and first former faculty member to have been
15 named UTEP president; and

16 WHEREAS, During her exemplary 25-year tenure, Dr. Natalicio
17 has seen UTEP's enrollment grow from about 15,000 students to
18 nearly 23,000, 90 percent of whom come from the surrounding Paso del
19 Norte region, and the school's annual budget grow from \$65 million
20 to more than \$400 million; the number of doctoral programs has
21 increased from 1 to 19 and the yearly research budget has increased
22 from \$6 million to \$76 million, helping to make UTEP a nationally
23 recognized research and graduate institution; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Natalicio is a leader among university

1 presidents as a trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation and a
2 director of the American Council on Education and the Association
3 of Public and Land-grant Universities; she served two terms on the
4 National Science Board, including three terms as vice chair, and
5 she has served on the boards of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for
6 Science, the NASA Advisory Council, Trinity Industries, the
7 National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, the Sandia
8 Corporation, and Internet2; she was appointed by President George
9 H. W. Bush to the Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for
10 Hispanic Americans; and

11 WHEREAS, This outstanding educator's many accolades include
12 the Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca from the president of Mexico,
13 the Harold W. McGraw, Jr., Prize in Education, and the
14 Distinguished Alumnus Award from UT Austin; moreover, she has
15 received honorary degrees from Georgetown University, Smith
16 College, and the Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, and she has
17 been inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame; and

18 WHEREAS, With her vision, energy, and enthusiasm for her
19 work, Diana Natalicio has been instrumental in the evolution of
20 UTEP into a national success story, and she is a role model for
21 educators and women throughout the Lone Star State and beyond; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
24 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Diana Natalicio on her 25 years
25 of service to The University of Texas at El Paso and extend to her
26 sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it
27 further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for Dr. Natalicio as an expression of high regard by the
3 Texas House of Representatives.