

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 1618

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Miakan/Garza Band of the Coahuiltecan
2 Indians of Texas have provided cultural and educational programs
3 and presentations to the children of our state for almost 20 years;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Direct descendants of Zaragosa Garza, a cacique of
6 the Mier Band of the Garza Tribe, the members of the Miakan/Garza
7 Band incorporated the Indigenous Cultures Institute in 2006 to
8 promote and preserve the cultures of Native Americans indigenous to
9 Texas and Northern Mexico and to maintain their covenant with
10 sacred sites; and

11 WHEREAS, Through the institute, members offer elementary and
12 high school students numerous free cultural programs, including a
13 summer camp, in an effort to increase young people's awareness of
14 their rich indigenous history and culture and at the same time to
15 encourage in them a sense of pride; the institute also educates and
16 enlightens members of the Hispanic community about their indigenous
17 heritage through the online publication *Nakum*, a peer-reviewed
18 academic journal; and

19 WHEREAS, Each year, the Miakan/Garza Band produces the Sacred
20 Springs Powwow at Spring Lake by Aquarena Springs in San Marcos as a
21 celebration of indigenous heritage and culture; moreover, the band
22 has greatly benefited the international indigenous communities by
23 translating the required songs and other ancient intertribal songs
24 of the Native American Church, which has over 500,000 active

1 members in the United States and Canada; the band has further
2 recorded the first and only compact disc of traditional ceremonial
3 songs in the Coahuiltecan language; and

4 WHEREAS, The Miakan/Garza Band of the Coahuiltecan Indians
5 has contributed immeasurably to the indigenous people of Central
6 and South Texas through its dedicated efforts to sustain and
7 preserve its spiritual and cultural traditions; now, therefore, be
8 it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor the Miakan/Garza Band of the Coahuiltecan
11 Indians of Texas for its outstanding accomplishments and extend to
12 its members sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the Miakan/Garza Band as an expression of high regard
15 by the Texas House of Representatives.