

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Kern Place in El Paso are celebrating  
2 the 100th anniversary of their historic neighborhood during 2014;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, Created by local businessman Peter Kern in 1914, the  
5 Kern Place development was originally located on the edge of the  
6 desert, well outside the main hub of El Paso; many of the homes in  
7 the area were built by the owners themselves and represent a rich  
8 diversity of early 20th century architecture; the community is  
9 known for its winding roads and quiet atmosphere and for the large  
10 park at its center, named Madeline Park after Mr. Kern's daughter;  
11 and

12           WHEREAS, In its early days, the entrance to the area was  
13 marked by a distinctive arch designed by Mr. Kern that depicted  
14 ancient symbols of luck and included nearly 450 electric light  
15 globes that illuminated the words "Kern Place"; this architectural  
16 flourish soon became both an attraction and a nuisance; people  
17 drove across town to see it for themselves, but vandals also were  
18 fond of the arch; after falling into disrepair, it was finally  
19 dismantled in the 1950s; and

20           WHEREAS, The city's growth caught up with Kern Place over  
21 time, and the area is now just a mile north of downtown; through the  
22 years, many prominent citizens and leaders have called the  
23 neighborhood home, and the elegant Hoover House has served as the  
24 residence of The University of Texas at El Paso president since

1 1965; and

2           WHEREAS, The Kern Place Association was organized in 1981 to  
3 maintain and improve the neighborhood, and members have worked with  
4 the city on various zoning and management issues; thanks to the  
5 dedicated efforts of many volunteers and supporters, the group has  
6 revitalized Madeline Park, hosting annual picnics and Music in the  
7 Park events at its newly built gazebo, and the association has also  
8 worked to develop Alethea Park; and

9           WHEREAS, Although El Paso has changed immeasurably during the  
10 past century, Kern Place retains its character as a unique and  
11 lovely area of the city, and it is indeed fitting to join in  
12 honoring the neighborhood on this milestone occasion; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
15 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of Kern Place  
16 and commend the members of the Kern Place Association for their work  
17 in behalf of this special community; and, be it further

18           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
19 prepared for the association as an expression of high regard by the  
20 Texas House of Representatives.

Marquez

H.R. No. 1788

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1788 was adopted by the House on May 8, 2013, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House