

By: Marquez

H.R. No. 2145

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A 90th birthday is truly cause for celebration, and  
2 Dr. Joseph E. Torres of El Paso reached that impressive milestone on  
3 April 11, 2013; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in El Paso in 1923 to Jose Torres, Jr., and  
5 Caritina Villanueva Torres, Joe Torres graduated from high school  
6 in 1941 and interrupted his studies at the Texas College of Mines  
7 and Metallurgy during World War II to answer his nation's call to  
8 duty; he saw combat as a bombardier on B-17s with the U.S. Army Air  
9 Forces; and

10 WHEREAS, After the war, Dr. Torres earned a bachelor's degree  
11 in history in 1948 and went on to graduate from the Creighton  
12 University School of Dentistry in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1952; he  
13 subsequently returned to El Paso and embarked on his long career as  
14 a dentist; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1964, Dr. Torres was in an automobile accident  
16 that left him in a coma, but in 1966, after recovering, he returned  
17 to his dental practice, where, nearly half a century later, he  
18 continues to work; over the years, "Dr. Joe," as he is  
19 affectionately known, has served countless patients and mentored  
20 five El Paso dentists; moreover, this remarkable professional still  
21 attends continuing education classes and participates with his  
22 colleagues in the El Paso District Dental Society; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Torres was joined in matrimony to the former  
24 Jean Margaret Morris, and over the course of a rewarding life

1 together, they became the parents of seven children; since his  
2 wife's death in 1988, Dr. Torres has lived alone in his home in the  
3 lower valley, where he tends to his vegetables and his farm animals;  
4 he remains an active member of the VFW and the G.I. Forum, serving  
5 as a counselor for veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder; and

6 WHEREAS, Respected and admired by all who are privileged to  
7 know him, Dr. Joseph Torres may reflect with great satisfaction on a  
8 lifetime of achievement, and it is a pleasure to join his many  
9 friends and loved ones in honoring him on this memorable occasion;  
10 now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
12 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Joseph E. Torres on his 90th  
13 birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued  
14 success and happiness; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for Dr. Torres as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
17 House of Representatives.