

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 2334

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Juanita Valdez-Cox, the executive director of La
2 Union Del Pueblo Entero, is a true champion of farm workers and
3 migrant and low-income families in Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, Since 2007, Ms. Valdez-Cox has served as the
5 executive director of LUPE, a nonprofit organization founded by
6 Cesar Chavez to help farm workers and their families outside the
7 workplace; she also serves on the board of the Cesar Chavez
8 Foundation and on the advisory committee of the foundation's Si Se
9 Puede Education Program, as well as on the board of directors of
10 Proyecto Azteca, on the national planning committee of the Equal
11 Voice for America's Families campaign, and with the Annie E. Casey
12 Foundation Fellowship for Children and Families; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Valdez-Cox has deep roots in the movement she
14 now helps to lead; she grew up in a migrant family and began picking
15 crops in the fields while still young, traveling with her family
16 from southern Florida to northern Idaho; after working for a
17 migrant Head Start program, she earned her GED and then an
18 associate's degree in early childhood development from The
19 University of Texas--Pan American; and

20 WHEREAS, Following a move to Austin in 1979, Ms. Valdez-Cox
21 took a position with ACORN as a community organizer, but soon
22 returned to the Rio Grande Valley to devote herself on a full-time
23 basis to the farm workers' movement; and

24 WHEREAS, Ms. Valdez-Cox served as a regional coordinator and

1 a state director with the United Farm Workers and was elected to its
2 national executive board in 2000; she has been affiliated with LUPE
3 since 2003; for her lifelong contributions promoting social,
4 economic, and legal reform, she is receiving the 2013 Emma Tenayuca
5 Award from the South Texas Civil Rights Project; and

6 WHEREAS, In all of her endeavors, Ms. Valdez-Cox is supported
7 by her husband of 41 years, Vaughn Cox, who joined LUPE in 2002, and
8 together they take pride in a fine family that includes two sons,
9 Michael Gabriel and Lucas Noel, a daughter-in-law, Iriela, and two
10 grandchildren, Camila Isabella and Mateo Lucas; and

11 WHEREAS, Tireless in her quest to secure equal rights and
12 fair treatment for all Texans, Juanita Valdez-Cox has earned the
13 respect and gratitude of people from around the Lone Star State, and
14 she is indeed deserving of recognition; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
16 Legislature hereby honor Juanita Valdez-Cox for her advocacy work
17 in behalf of farm workers and migrant and low-income families in
18 South Texas and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued
19 success; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Ms. Valdez-Cox as an expression of high regard by the
22 Texas House of Representatives.