

By: Canales

H.R. No. 584

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable John David Franz has been named a 2015
2 Pillar of Success by The University of Texas--Pan American Alumni
3 Association; and

4 WHEREAS, Each year the UTPA Alumni Association celebrates a
5 select group of distinguished alumni for their professional
6 excellence and for their service to the community and their alma
7 mater; and

8 WHEREAS, After graduating from McAllen High School,
9 Mr. Franz enrolled at UTPA, where he earned a bachelor's degree in
10 political science in 1981; while pursuing his undergraduate
11 studies, he was appointed to the post of municipal court judge in
12 Hidalgo, an office he assumed at the age of 18; Mr. Franz went on to
13 attend The University of Texas School of Law and attained his doctor
14 of jurisprudence degree in 1984; he became a board certified
15 personal injury trial lawyer in 1989, and that same year, he opened
16 a law practice in McAllen; and

17 WHEREAS, John David Franz was elected mayor of Hidalgo in
18 1990, and he served in that office for 22 uninterrupted years; over
19 the course of his tenure, the city saw a number of significant
20 improvements, such as the construction of the State Farm Arena in
21 2003, and received many honors, including being named an
22 All-America City in 2004; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Franz has also provided valued leadership to
24 many civic organizations, among them the Hidalgo Economic

1 Development Corporation, which he served for 22 years as a
2 director, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, which he
3 served for 15 years as president, and the Texas Border Coalition,
4 which he also served as president; in recognition of his myriad
5 contributions to the development of his region, John David Franz
6 was named Border Texan of the Year in 2009; and

7 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman has rendered further public
8 service as a member the Texas Criminal Justice Board, to which he
9 was appointed by Governor George W. Bush in 1995; during his term on
10 the board, he played an instrumental role in laying the foundation
11 for the modernization of the system's aging physical plant; and

12 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Franz enjoys the love and
13 support of his wife, Annette Diaz, and his children, John and
14 Steven; and

15 WHEREAS, Benefiting from the solid educational foundation
16 that he received at UTPA, John David Franz has made lasting
17 contributions to his community and to the State of Texas, and he is
18 indeed a worthy recipient of this prestigious award; now,
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
21 Legislature hereby congratulate the Honorable John David Franz on
22 his selection as a 2015 Pillar of Success by The University of
23 Texas--Pan American Alumni Association and extend to him sincere
24 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Mr. Franz as an expression of high regard by the Texas
27 House of Representatives.