

By: Nevárez

H.R. No. 813

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Many generations of Eagle Pass residents visited the  
2 beautiful Aztec Theater during its long history; and

3           WHEREAS, Constructed in 1915 by Hungarian immigrant Sam  
4 Schwartz, the Aztec is considered the first documented theater in  
5 the Mayan Revival style, which embraced pre-Columbian decorative  
6 themes; it was designed by architect Leonard F. Seed, who also  
7 served as contractor; and

8           WHEREAS, The theater initially offered silent movies and  
9 vaudeville acts, charging ten cents for adults and five for  
10 children; in 1929, the Aztec was one of the first venues in the  
11 border region to screen *The Jazz Singer*, a milestone production  
12 featuring recorded dialogue; and

13           WHEREAS, Sam Schwartz ranked as the oldest independent  
14 theater owner in Texas at the time of his death in 1969; the Aztec  
15 continued to operate under the management of his son, Arnold I.  
16 Schwartz, and his son-in-law, Lloyd T. Munter, until 1982;  
17 subsequent generations of the family utilized the space for a law  
18 office and for periodic events; and

19           WHEREAS, An example of a distinctive architectural era, the  
20 Aztec Theater has captured the imagination of innumerable Texans,  
21 and it holds a host of memories for local cinephiles and the many  
22 residents who have attended programs in this notable building; now,  
23 therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas

H.R. No. 813

1 Legislature hereby recognize the historic Aztec Theater in Eagle  
2 Pass for its long-standing contribution to that city's cultural  
3 heritage.