

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 827

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, April Lopez of McAllen demonstrated remarkable  
2 decisiveness and composure on February 17, 2015, when she came to  
3 the aid of a man experiencing a medical emergency; and

4 WHEREAS, A board certified nurse practitioner, Ms. Lopez has  
5 spent 17 years as a registered nurse in both emergency rooms and  
6 private practice; she currently works at Lopez Family Clinic in  
7 McAllen, and she also teaches at her alma mater, The University of  
8 Texas--Pan American; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Lopez was aboard a flight bound for McAllen from  
10 Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, and shortly after  
11 takeoff, the captain began calling for a bystander with medical  
12 experience to help assist a male passenger who was sweating and in  
13 obvious physical distress; Ms. Lopez responded immediately, and  
14 the man informed her that he had cirrhosis, a condition that can be  
15 life-threatening in advanced stages; and

16 WHEREAS, With his condition worsening rapidly, Ms. Lopez  
17 requested that the plane be landed and enlisted the help of two  
18 other passengers to move him to a seat where she could begin  
19 rendering aid; she injected him with intravenous fluids and readied  
20 the plane's defibrillator to ensure that the man did not suffer  
21 cardiac arrest; throughout this harrowing ordeal, Ms. Lopez  
22 reassured him with her steady manner and the confidence that she had  
23 developed during her career; the plane eventually touched down in  
24 Austin, where emergency crews were waiting to rush the man to the

1 hospital for treatment; and

2           WHEREAS, By taking charge of a desperate situation, April  
3 Lopez distinguished herself as a caring citizen and a professional  
4 of outstanding skill and commitment, and her actions on that day are  
5 indeed deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby commend April Lopez for her heroism in providing  
8 lifesaving assistance to a fellow traveler in need and extend to her  
9 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

10           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for Ms. Lopez as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
12 House of Representatives.