

By: Canales

H.R. No. 900

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and
2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends
3 of Celia Avila of Edinburg, who passed away on January 29, 2015, at
4 the age of 54; and

5 WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of her hometown, the former
6 Celia Salinas graduated from Edinburg High School in 1979 and went
7 on to attend The University of Texas--Pan American, where she
8 earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 1983; she married
9 the love of her life, Jorge Avila, in 1986, and the couple enjoyed
10 28 years together and raised two daughters, Amanda and Anyssa; and

11 WHEREAS, After working as a probation officer, Ms. Avila
12 joined the Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District in
13 1988 while pursuing her alternative teaching certification; she
14 subsequently became a teacher at Trevino Elementary, and in 2004
15 she returned to UT--Pan American to attain a master's degree in
16 education; she then worked as a curriculum assistant at Freddy
17 Gonzalez Elementary before becoming principal of Truman
18 Elementary; and

19 WHEREAS, Throughout her quarter-century career with ECISD,
20 Ms. Avila was dedicated to enriching educational and
21 extracurricular opportunities for students; while teaching at
22 Trevino Elementary, she organized a chess club, UIL club, and dance
23 team, and she also assisted a colleague with the Edinburg North High
24 School Golden Spurs drill team; as a principal, she worked to

1 improve her school's overall performance on state assessment tests
2 and to ensure that parents became more involved in the academic
3 journeys of their children; she was also an active member of the
4 Catholic Church, especially with the youth at Capilla San Jose in La
5 Hielera; and

6 WHEREAS, The passion and generosity of spirit that Celia
7 Avila brought to every endeavor endeared her deeply to all who knew
8 her, and she will be forever treasured by those who were blessed to
9 share in her love and affection; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Celia Avila and
12 extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her
13 husband, Jorge Avila; to her daughters, Amanda Avila and Anyssa
14 Avila and her significant other, Misael De Leon Jr.; to her parents,
15 Donato and Francisca Salinas; to her siblings, Donato Salinas Jr.
16 and his wife, Edith, Susie Mercado and her husband, Joe, Sylvia
17 Salinas, Yolanda Granados, and Inez Salinas; and to her many other
18 relatives and friends; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Celia
22 Avila.