

By: Canales

H.R. No. 1264

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The tenure of an esteemed public official will draw
2 to a close when the Honorable Leopoldo Palacios Jr. concludes his
3 service as the mayor of Pharr in May 2015; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Pharr, "Polo" Palacios graduated from
5 Pharr-San Juan-Alamo High School in 1952 and subsequently served
6 this state and nation for four years as a member of the United
7 States Air Force; he later attended Texas A&I University and went on
8 to graduate with a degree in social work from The University of
9 Texas--Pan American; and

10 WHEREAS, After being employed in insurance sales for many
11 years, Mr. Palacios started working in the financial industry, and
12 in 1965, he established a loan company in McAllen; in 1981, he once
13 again changed career paths to become a drug and alcohol abuse
14 counselor, and he went on to found Palacios Alcohol Drug Education
15 and Counseling Services, where he has positively impacted countless
16 lives through the decades; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Palacios entered politics in 1985 with his
18 appointment as city commissioner, and he was subsequently returned
19 to that office time and again by local voters; over the course of
20 his 17-year tenure in that post, he ably served his constituency,
21 and he recalls as one of his proudest achievements providing more
22 than 20,000 new residents with clean water, sewerage services,
23 streets, and electricity after the annexation of the Las Milpas
24 area by the city; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2002, Mr. Palacios was elected mayor of Pharr,
2 and under his guidance, the city has received a host of accolades
3 for its dedication to historic preservation, economic development,
4 and civic excellence; it was designated as both a Preserve America
5 Community and a Texas Main Street City in 2004, and it received a
6 2006 All-America City Award from the National Civic League;
7 moreover, Mayor Palacios was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Honor
8 in 2009 by the Pharr Chamber of Commerce in recognition of his
9 outstanding contributions to his community; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to his mayoral duties, Polo Palacios has
11 served as a member of the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge Board,
12 the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Lower
13 Rio Grande Valley Development Council, American Legion Post
14 No. 101, the United States Conference of Mayors, and Disabled
15 American Veterans; at the statewide level, he was appointed to the
16 Texas Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner by Governor Mark White
17 and, at the national level, to the Military Academy Selection
18 Committee by U.S. Senator John Cornyn; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Palacios is blessed in all his endeavors by the
20 love and support of his wife, the former Maria Guadalupe Ramos, with
21 whom he has shared a rewarding union of nearly six decades; he also
22 takes tremendous pride in his treasured family that includes 6
23 children, 18 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren; buoyed by a
24 strong faith as well, he and his wife are valued, longtime
25 congregants of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, where he serves
26 as a Eucharistic minister; and

27 WHEREAS, Greatly respected for his commitment to his fellow

1 citizens, Polo Palacios has devoted three decades of his life to
2 public service, and his myriad efforts in behalf of the city of
3 Pharr will be remembered and admired for years to come; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
6 Legislature hereby commend the Honorable Leopoldo "Polo" Palacios
7 Jr. for his service as mayor of Pharr and extend to him sincere best
8 wishes for continued success and fulfillment; and, be it further

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