

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 1317

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Countless lives were touched by the kindness and
2 generosity of Elizabeth Mendoza of San Antonio, who passed away on
3 December 16, 2014, at the age of 52; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Roger and Ora Roel, the former
5 Elizabeth Roel was born in San Antonio on May 16, 1962; she
6 graduated from Highlands High School in 1980, and on February 14 of
7 the following year, she exchanged wedding vows with Raul Mendoza;
8 the couple shared a rewarding marriage of nearly 35 years and became
9 the parents of three children, Jason, Matthew, and Timothy; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Mendoza worked in her parents' restaurant and
11 ran her own small business before opening Highlands Cafe, which she
12 operated alongside her brother, Ray; the diner drew many loyal
13 customers from the community, and Ms. Mendoza and her sons
14 developed a warm rapport with their neighbors while delivering care
15 packages of food; eventually, she left the cafe and joined the staff
16 of the Bonham Elementary School cafeteria; and

17 WHEREAS, This cherished woman was a member of the Gold Star
18 Mother's Association and the VFW Post No. 76 Marine Corps
19 Committee; in 2008, after the tragic loss of one of her sons, USMC
20 Sergeant Matthew Elias Mendoza, in Afghanistan, she reached out to
21 help other marines and their families by volunteering with the
22 Wounded Warrior Project at the San Antonio Military Medical Center;
23 during the hours she spent there, she offered compassion and
24 comfort to service members in the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine

1 Regiment, 1st Marine Division, many of whom came to regard her as a
2 second mother; and

3 WHEREAS, While the life of Elizabeth Mendoza ended far too
4 soon, those who were fortunate enough to know her will forever carry
5 her memory close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Elizabeth Mendoza
8 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her
9 husband, Raul Elias Mendoza; to her son, Timothy Lee Mendoza; to her
10 grandchildren, Matthew I. Mendoza and Brooke Leann Mendoza; to her
11 mother, Ora Roel; to her brother, Roger Roel; to her sisters,
12 Belinda Peterson, Susie Rodriguez, and Ora Lee Roel; and to her
13 other relatives and friends; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Elizabeth
17 Mendoza.