

By: Canales

H.R. No. 2157

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The residents of Hidalgo County lost an admired  
2 civic leader when Oscar L. Garza Jr. passed away on January 18,  
3 2014, at the age of 57; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Edinburg to Oscar Garza Sr. and Yolanda  
5 Garza, Oscar Garza devoted his life to making his community an even  
6 better place in which to live; after gaining work experience as a  
7 realtor and broker at Manning Realty and subsequently as manager of  
8 La India Ranch, he began a career in public service as a bailiff for  
9 Hidalgo County Court at Law No. 3 in 1981; four years later, he was  
10 elected to office as justice of the peace for Hidalgo County  
11 Precinct 4, Place 2, a role in which he served for six years; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Garza went on to manage the produce company  
13 Bronco Bananas for several years, and in 1998, he returned to  
14 elected office as the Hidalgo County Precinct 4 commissioner; over  
15 the course of his 12-year tenure in that post, he demonstrated  
16 exceptional leadership in numerous county improvement projects,  
17 such as developing critical flood protection, enhancing  
18 infrastructure in area colonias, and constructing a juvenile  
19 justice center to provide counseling, education, and job training  
20 for at-risk youth; he later pursued a successful career as a land  
21 developer; and

22 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Mr. Garza enjoyed the love and  
23 companionship of his wife, the former Imelda Bazan, his high school  
24 sweetheart with whom he shared more than three and a half decades of

1 marriage; over the years, the couple were blessed with two  
2 children, Brenda and Oscar, and three grandchildren, Julian Joe,  
3 Savannah, and Chloe; and

4       WHEREAS, "Big O," as he was known to his loved ones, instilled  
5 in his family the importance of giving back to the community, and  
6 each Christmas, the Garzas delivered presents to local  
7 underprivileged children; moreover, he and his wife were founding  
8 members of the Edinburg North High School FFA Booster Club and  
9 helped create the Cougar and Fiesta Classics, stock shows that  
10 raised funds for scholarships; he also gave generously of his time  
11 as an auctioneer for a number of worthwhile events and  
12 organizations, including the St. Joseph Catholic School  
13 Turkeyfest, the Linn-San Manuel Cook-off, the Hidalgo County 4-H  
14 Hoedown, the Driscoll Children's Hospital, the American Diabetes  
15 Association, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and many others;  
16 and

17       WHEREAS, In his leisure time, Mr. Garza was an avid  
18 outdoorsman who loved camping, fishing, hunting, showing cattle,  
19 and roping, and one of his proudest achievements was touring the  
20 country as a competitor in the United States Team Roping  
21 Championships circuit; and

22       WHEREAS, Oscar Garza possessed a strength of character and a  
23 generosity of spirit that won him the admiration of many people, and  
24 he is deeply missed by all those whose lives were enriched by his  
25 warmth, humor, and fun-loving personality; now, therefore, be it

26       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
27 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Oscar L. Garza Jr.

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1 and to his notable record of service to the people of Hidalgo  
2 County; and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Oscar  
6 L. Garza Jr.