

By: Rodriguez of Bexar

H.R. No. 2196

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Arturo Vargas is celebrating his 20th anniversary as
2 executive director of the National Association of Latino Elected
3 and Appointed Officials (NALEO) and NALEO Educational Fund, and the
4 attainment of this milestone provides a fitting opportunity to
5 recognize this esteemed individual; and

6 WHEREAS, Founded in 1981 by Congressman Edward R. Roybal of
7 California, NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading
8 nonprofit organization that facilitates full Latino participation
9 in the American political process, from citizenship to public
10 service; along with guiding NALEO Educational Fund, Mr. Vargas
11 serves as the executive director of NALEO, an affiliated
12 nonpartisan organization that represents more than 6,000 elected
13 and appointed Latino officials across the nation and that provides
14 a forum for them to discuss issues of critical importance to the
15 Latino community; and

16 WHEREAS, Born in El Paso, Mr. Vargas holds a bachelor's
17 degree in history and Spanish and a master's degree in education,
18 both from Stanford University; before assuming the helm at NALEO
19 and NALEO Educational Fund, he worked for the Mexican American
20 Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) as vice president for
21 community education and public policy; during his time at MALDEF,
22 he also directed the group's National 1990 Census Program, an
23 outreach and public policy effort to promote a full count of the
24 Latino population; earlier in his career, he served as the senior

1 educational policy analyst at the National Council of La Raza
2 (NCLR) in Washington, D.C.; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition to leading two vital organizations,
4 Mr. Vargas currently serves as a member of the U.S. Census Bureau
5 National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic, and Other
6 Populations and as a board member for the Alliance for a Better
7 Community and for Zero Divide; he previously held appointments to
8 the 2010 Census Advisory Committee and to the 2001 and 2011 Los
9 Angeles City Council Redistricting Commissions; his work has earned
10 him numerous honors, including the *Hispanic Magazine* Hispanic
11 Achievement Award for Community Service, the National Association
12 for Bilingual Education President's Award, and repeated
13 appearances on the *Latino Leaders Magazine* list of the 101 most
14 influential Latinos; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Vargas has contributed to improving the lives of
16 Latinos in this country in many ways, and he may reflect with pride
17 on his outstanding accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate Arturo Vargas on his 20th
20 anniversary as executive director of NALEO and NALEO Educational
21 Fund and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success;
22 and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Mr. Vargas as an expression of high regard by the Texas
25 House of Representatives.