

By: González

H.R. No. 2325

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, With a unique history spanning more than 170 years,
2 the Socorro Mission is one of El Paso County's cultural treasures;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The Misión de Nuestra Señora de la Limpia Concepción
5 de los Piro de Socorro, situated in La Purísima Parish, was founded
6 by the Franciscan order in 1682 to serve Spaniards and Piro Indians
7 from Socorro, New Mexico, who had fled the Pueblo Revolt of 1680;
8 the mission was destroyed twice by flooding of the Rio Grande, but
9 determined parishioners constructed a third church in 1843, and
10 that place of worship still stands today; recognized as a Recorded
11 Texas Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of
12 Historic Places, the Socorro Mission is built of adobe surfaced
13 with stucco, and its interior incorporates finely decorated ceiling
14 beams from the previous 18th-century building; and

15 WHEREAS, La Purísima Parish was transferred to the Jesuits in
16 the early 1880s and subsequently to the Diocese of El Paso in 1979;
17 during the late 1970s and throughout the 1980s, the Socorro Mission
18 underwent a series of renovations, and another significant
19 restoration project began in 2000, with the intent of returning the
20 exterior and interior to their original appearance while enhancing
21 the building's structural integrity; and

22 WHEREAS, Today, La Purísima Parish serves some 600 families
23 and holds an annual bazaar in September to celebrate the feast of
24 St. Michael; and

1 WHEREAS, The residents of the State of Texas are heirs to an
2 extraordinarily rich heritage, and the Socorro Mission serves as an
3 important reminder of this legacy; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
5 Legislature hereby honor the Socorro Mission and extend to all
6 those associated with the mission sincere best wishes for the
7 future; and, be it further

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