By: González H.R. No. 2383

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, With a unique history spanning more than 100 years,

2 the San Elizario Presidio Chapel is one of El Paso County's cultural

3 treasures; and

4 WHEREAS, Named for Saint Elzear, the San Elizario Presidio

5 was established in 1789 to provide protection for the settlements

6 of Ysleta and Socorro and to host an Apache colony; the presidio was

7 abandoned during the Mexican War of Independence, and by the

8 mid-1800s, the fort stood in ruins; and

9 WHEREAS, The current chapel, built on the town plaza in 1882,

10 is perhaps the fourth such structure to have been erected on or near

11 this site; an imposing presence, with white plastered walls and

12 strong buttresses that catch the sunlight, the chapel is considered

13 a prime example of the late adobe church architecture found in West

14 Texas and New Mexico; the interior of the building underwent

15 extensive restoration following a fire that broke out in 1935, and

16 the back wall was later repainted to honor soldiers from the town

17 who had fought in the Second World War; and

18 WHEREAS, The residents of the State of Texas are heirs to an

19 extraordinarily rich heritage, and the San Elizario Presidio Chapel

20 serves as an important reminder of this legacy; now, therefore, be

21 it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas

23 Legislature hereby honor the San Elizario Presidio Chapel and

24 extend to all those associated with the church sincere best wishes

H.R. No. 2383

- 1 for the future; and, be it further
- 2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 3 prepared for the San Elizario Presidio Chapel as an expression of
- 4 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.