

By: Blanco

H.R. No. 2542

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 92nd birthday of an esteemed Texan is truly
2 cause for celebration, and Dr. Joseph Ernest Torres of El Paso
3 reached that impressive milestone on April 11, 2015; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in El Paso in 1923, Dr. Torres graduated from
5 El Paso High School in 1941 and attended the Texas College of Mines
6 and Metallurgy before going to work as a recruiting agent with
7 Southern Pacific Railroad and as a trainee marine machinist in
8 Oakland, California; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Torres answered his nation's call to duty during
10 World War II and served as an infantryman in the United States Army
11 and as a B-17 bombardier and navigator in the U.S. Army Air Forces;
12 he flew 13 combat missions over Germany, and after the war, he
13 served in the reserves at the rank of lieutenant until 1947; and

14 WHEREAS, Following his military service, Dr. Torres resumed
15 his education at the College of Mines and Metallurgy, receiving his
16 bachelor's degree in 1948, and he went on to earn his dental degree
17 at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1952; in the late
18 1950s, he returned to the Air Force Dental Reserves, attaining the
19 rank of colonel; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Torres has been in private practice as a dental
21 surgeon in El Paso for many years, and he continues to work today; a
22 leader in his profession, he has served as chair of the El Paso
23 District Dental Society and the West Texas Dental Society and as an
24 advisor to the El Paso Community College Dental Assistants Training

1 program; and

2 WHEREAS, This caring and energetic gentleman has also devoted
3 much of his time and energy to giving back to his community, serving
4 on the board of St. Margaret's Children's Home and as a member of
5 the Knights of Columbus and the Kiwanis Club; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Torres has remained proud of his military
7 service, and he is an honorary member of the 82nd Airborne
8 Association, which presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation
9 for Meritorious and Exemplary Performance in Support of
10 International Freedom and Peace; a cofounder of the Legacy of Valor
11 organization and a leader in the effort to create a Vietnam Veterans
12 memorial in El Paso, he has also served as vice commander of the
13 Paso del Norte chapter of the American GI Forum; and

14 WHEREAS, For more than nine decades, Dr. Joseph Torres has
15 lived an exemplary life dedicated to the service of his nation and
16 his community, and he is a source of inspiration and wisdom to all
17 those who are privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Joseph Ernest Torres on his
20 92nd birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
21 success and happiness; and, be it further

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