

By: Hinojosa

S.C.R. No. 45

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The framers of the Constitution established the  
2 United States as a representative democracy that relies on civic  
3 engagement; and

4 WHEREAS, A fundamental element of effective democracy is the  
5 principle that all eligible citizens should participate in fair and  
6 open elections; however, the Rio Grande Valley has historically low  
7 voter turnout; and

8 WHEREAS, Rio Grande Valley residents increased their  
9 registration rates by 72 percent between 2010 and 2014;  
10 nevertheless, only about 24 percent of registered voters cast a  
11 ballot in the 2014 mid-term election; and

12 WHEREAS, In order to reach those who have not fully embraced  
13 their rights and responsibilities as citizens, the community must  
14 expand opportunities for voter education and nonpartisan voter  
15 registration; vital contributions in this regard can be made by  
16 grassroots organizations, by the media, by educational, cultural,  
17 and religious institutions, and by other entities in both the  
18 public and private sector; and

19 WHEREAS, Across the Rio Grande Valley, there is an urgent  
20 need to increase participation in the electoral process; now,  
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
23 hereby designate September as Valley Voter Awareness Month; and, be  
24 it further

1           RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section  
2 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect  
3 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally  
4 passed by the legislature.