

By: Arévalo

H.R. No. 435

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Gilbert Velasquez of San Antonio has made
2 significant contributions to Texas music over the course of a
3 remarkable career spanning more than four decades; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Seguin and raised in the Alamo City,
5 Mr. Velasquez began playing guitar in church and then in garage
6 bands; he joined Chicano soul band The Royal Jesters in 1974 and
7 went on to perform for military troops in Europe and the Far East as
8 a member of Tejano band SugarJammer; after a stint with the group
9 People, he embarked on a 25-year affiliation with the legendary
10 Latin Breed; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Velasquez also worked as a studio musician and
12 became involved in arranging and recording; in the early 1980s, he
13 was hired as a staff producer for Cara Records, and he recorded and
14 produced such seminal groups as Mazz, La Mafia, Selena y Los Dinos,
15 Bobby Naranjo y Direccion, and Charro Band; he produced the
16 landmark CD *Breakin' the Rules* for Latin Breed, as well as *Tejanos*
17 *for Hunger*, featuring almost every top Tejano artist of the day; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1995, he launched his own production house,
19 Velasquez Productions, and a music publishing company; he also
20 traveled to Mexico during the 1990s to produce and engineer
21 recordings for Universal Mexico, EMI Mexico, Balboa Records, and
22 Discos MCM, mostly in the norteño and grupero genres; his work
23 continued to gain recognition, and in 2004, he received the first of
24 five Grammy Awards in the Best Tejano Album category; in addition,

1 he has collected five Latin Grammys, nine Tejano Awards, three
2 Tejano Academy Awards, and a Tejano Entertainers and Musicians
3 Association Award; he was inducted into the Tejano R.O.O.T.S. Hall
4 of Fame in 2006, and at the 2007 National Tejano Music Convention,
5 he was presented with the Tex-Mex Gibson Special Achievement in
6 Music Producing Award; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Velasquez serves on the board of governors of
8 the Texas Chapter of the National Association of Recording Arts and
9 Sciences; in recent years, he has continued to record prominent
10 Tejano artists while branching into other genres and collaborating
11 with up-and-coming local artists; and

12 WHEREAS, Dubbed "one of Tejano music's chief architects" by
13 the *San Antonio Express-News*, Gilbert Velasquez has made a lasting
14 cultural impact, and his work has enriched the lives of innumerable
15 people in Texas and beyond; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
17 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby honor Gilbert Velasquez for
18 his achievements in the music industry and extend to him sincere
19 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Mr. Velasquez as an expression of high regard by the
22 Texas House of Representatives.