

By: Villalba

H.R. No. 292

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For more than 180 years, across the Lone Star State
2 and around the world, the Alamo and the brave men who gave their
3 lives in its defense during the Texas War for Independence have been
4 inspiring symbols of the struggle for liberty and the right of free
5 people to self-determination; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1718, Fray Antonio de Olivares established a
7 Franciscan mission in what is now San Antonio, and in 1744, the
8 cornerstone was laid for the world-famous chapel that survives to
9 this day; the building's use as a mission ceased around 1765, and in
10 1803, it was occupied by Spanish colonial soldiers who called it "El
11 Alamo," after the surrounding grove of cottonwoods and in honor of
12 their unit's home base in Mexico, Alamo de Parras; and

13 WHEREAS, After the Mexican War of Independence, the Alamo was
14 occupied by troops of the Mexican army until December 1835, when
15 Texan rebels led by George Collinsworth and Benjamin Milam seized
16 control of the makeshift fortress; by February 1836, the Alamo was
17 under the command of Lieutenant Colonel William B. Travis and
18 Colonel Jim Bowie, who stood at the head of a group of some 200
19 volunteers, among them the legendary frontiersman Davy Crockett;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, On February 23, 1836, the Alamo was besieged by
22 thousands of Mexican troops under the command of General Antonio
23 Lopez de Santa Anna, and for the next 13 days, the intrepid Texans
24 within its walls held out with unparalleled fortitude and steadfast

1 determination against overwhelming odds; in the early hours of
2 March 6, the Mexican forces made a final assault, and the Alamo's
3 defenders fought to the last man; and

4 WHEREAS, Their courage, perseverance, and sacrifice inspired
5 their fellow rebels, and six weeks later, on April 21, 1836, 800
6 Texans and Tejanos under General Sam Houston defeated Santa Anna's
7 army at the Battle of San Jacinto, winning independence for a new
8 nation and paving the way for the creation of the State of Texas;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, On March 6, 1836, the defenders of the Alamo lit a
11 flame in the hearts of all Texans, a flame of freedom that burns as
12 brightly as ever it did on the day they made their ultimate
13 sacrifice; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor the defenders of the Alamo and encourage
16 all Texans to forever remember their courage and heroism.