

By: Minjarez

H.R. No. 370

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the  
2 passing of Bertha Cuellar Gonzalez of San Antonio on January 16,  
3 2017, at the age of 99; and

4           WHEREAS, The daughter of Lino Edward Cuellar and Francisca  
5 Flores Cuellar, the former Bertha Cuellar was born in Floresville  
6 on November 21, 1917; she moved with her family to San Antonio as a  
7 young girl and went on to graduate from Brackenridge High School;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, She married Henry B. Gonzalez in 1940, and the  
10 couple became the proud parents of four sons, Henry, Charles,  
11 Stephen, and Frank, and four daughters, Rose Mary, Bertha,  
12 Genevieve, and Anna; when her children were young, Mrs. Gonzalez  
13 was active in the PTA and served as a Cub Scout den mother; and

14           WHEREAS, While raising her family, Mrs. Gonzalez also shone  
15 as "campaigner in chief" for her husband, who became the state's  
16 first Mexican American congressman; she shared his deep commitment  
17 to social justice and played a crucial role in his long career in  
18 public service, providing wise counsel as well as tireless support;  
19 he often referred to her as his "secret weapon"; and

20           WHEREAS, Mrs. Gonzalez was happiest with a house full of  
21 people, especially youngsters, and she rejoiced in a large family  
22 that grew to include 21 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren;  
23 following the death of Congressman Gonzalez in November 2000, Mrs.  
24 Gonzalez demonstrated tremendous grace and resilience, and she

1 continued to form many new friendships as a resident of a senior  
2 community; and

3 WHEREAS, Although she never sought the spotlight, Bertha  
4 Gonzalez made a lasting, positive difference in her community and  
5 beyond, and those who were fortunate enough to share in the richness  
6 of her life will forever cherish their memories of her warmth, her  
7 selfless dedication to her family, and her wonderful sense of  
8 humor; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Bertha Cuellar  
11 Gonzalez and extend sincere condolences to all those who mourn her  
12 passing; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bertha  
16 Gonzalez.