

By: Canales

H.R. No. 974

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Bert Guerra has made significant contributions to
2 the McAllen community through his efforts to preserve the town's
3 historic Cine El Rey; and

4 WHEREAS, Opened in 1947 to serve the area's Spanish-speaking
5 residents, El Rey screened countless Spanish-language films and
6 hosted numerous iconic performers, such as Pedro Infante,
7 Cantinflas, Sara García, and Tin Tan; in addition, the theater's
8 talent shows offered an early proving ground for Tejano legend
9 Carlos Guzmán, who grew up in South Texas, and its stage provided a
10 stepping-stone for many other regional artists who went on to enjoy
11 notable success; and

12 WHEREAS, After the theater closed in 1988, the building
13 remained vacant for many years, but in 2002, the same year it was
14 listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it was restored
15 and reopened by a new owner; Premont natives Bert Guerra and his
16 brother Isaac subsequently purchased the theater in 2007, and since
17 then Bert Guerra has overseen the theater's revival, guided by its
18 original, animating spirit; under his direction, and with the
19 support of The Historic Cine El Rey Theatre Foundation, programming
20 includes community events, free movies, weekly comedy shows, and a
21 wide range of other art-related offerings; and

22 WHEREAS, A beloved local landmark, Cine El Rey continues its
23 venerable tradition of entertaining and enlightening McAllen
24 residents, and Bert Guerra is indeed deserving of recognition for

1 his role in preserving this important cultural institution; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
4 Legislature hereby commend Bert Guerra for his efforts to preserve
5 the spirit of the Cine El Rey and extend to him sincere best wishes
6 for the future; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for Mr. Guerra as an expression of high regard by the Texas
9 House of Representatives.