

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1509

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, St. Anthony School in Robstown is commemorating the  
2 100th anniversary of its founding with a multiclass reunion and  
3 centennial celebration on April 29, 2017; and

4           WHEREAS, The school was established in 1916 by the Venerable  
5 Mother Julia Navarrete; born in Oaxaca, Mexico, on June 30, 1881,  
6 she organized the Missionary Sisters of the Most Pure Virgin Mary at  
7 the age of 19 and went on to personally found some 45 convents in her  
8 home country; when the Mexican Revolution made it unsafe for the  
9 sisters to practice their religion, she and other members of the  
10 order moved to Kingsville, and she resumed her important work in the  
11 Lone Star State; and

12           WHEREAS, St. Anthony School initially served 20 students who  
13 were the children of Mexican migrant farmworkers; as the Robstown  
14 community changed over the years, so did the school, which  
15 constructed a new facility in the mid-1960s; by 1997, the school had  
16 expanded to include programs for prekindergarten through eighth  
17 grade; and

18           WHEREAS, Today St. Anthony School continues to serve a  
19 predominately Hispanic student population; in addition to teaching  
20 the traditional subjects, the school uses computer technology to  
21 enhance learning and to equip students with skills needed to  
22 succeed; with the support of devoted alumni, families, and  
23 teachers, the school remains a source of estimable faith-based  
24 instruction and inspiration; and

1           WHEREAS, Paying tribute to St. Anthony's rich history, the  
2 centennial celebration and reunion begins with a school carnival  
3 and campus tour; these events are followed with a Mass led by Father  
4 Gerry Sheehan as well as presentations by two special guest  
5 speakers: Sister Maxie Cruz, a nun who tended to Mother Julia  
6 Navarrete during her final days in Toluca, Mexico, and former  
7 St. Anthony Church parish pastor Monsignor Seamus McGowan; and

8           WHEREAS, For a century, St. Anthony School has provided a  
9 number of young Texans with a strong educational foundation, and it  
10 is indeed deserving of recognition for its invaluable contributions  
11 to the Robstown community; now, therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of  
14 St. Anthony School in Robstown and extend to its administrators,  
15 faculty, staff, students, and alumni sincere best wishes for the  
16 future; and, be it further

17           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
19 House of Representatives.