

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1655

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud Aggies will forever remember the life and
2 achievements of distinguished Texas A&M University alumnus Homer T.
3 Martinez, who passed away on September 11, 1993; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in San Diego, Texas, in 1912, Mr. Martinez was
5 recruited to A&M by the legendary "Pinky" Wilson, who penned the
6 "Aggie War Hymn"; a member of the Corps of Cadets, Mr. Martinez was
7 cadet captain of Company D and executive officer of the First
8 Battalion, and he earned distinction as the Best Drilled Man in the
9 Corps; he was also a member of the T Association, as well as an
10 outfielder and pitcher for the Aggie baseball team, helping to
11 clinch the 1934 Southwest Conference championship; he graduated
12 from the School of Veterinary Medicine in 1937; and

13 WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty during World War
14 II, Dr. Martinez enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1941 and served with
15 the Veterinary Corps in the Burma Theater; he was discharged in 1945
16 at the rank of captain; his younger brother, Ed, lost his life in
17 the European Theater and is among those honored with a plaque in the
18 A&M Memorial Student Center; and

19 WHEREAS, After the war, Dr. Martinez settled in
20 Hebronville, where he maintained a veterinary practice; he often
21 donated his services to clients who could not afford to pay, and he
22 was regularly consulted by the veterinarian at nearby King Ranch;
23 working with his father and uncle, he was a rancher himself and was
24 renowned for his expertise in animal genetics and nutrition; the

1 ranch herd he developed produced a Reserve Grand Champion steer at
2 the San Antonio Livestock Show in 1959 that was raised and shown by
3 his nephew Arnoldo Martinez Jr., and Dr. Martinez raised a
4 successful racehorse, Tonto Parr, which won races in Texas, New
5 Mexico, and California; highly respected for the quality of his
6 horses, he often sold them to the Mexican military for the purposes
7 of equestrian competition; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1963, Dr. Martinez was elected county judge and
9 served for 16 years, in addition to holding the office of school
10 superintendent *ex officio*; under his leadership, the county
11 improved its roads and built new schools, an airport, and a public
12 swimming pool; he was featured in the publication *iSiempre!*, which
13 celebrated the contributions of Hispanic students, faculty, and
14 staff at Texas A&M over the course of 130 years, and he was
15 posthumously inducted into the Latin American International Sports
16 Hall of Fame in Laredo in 1995; and

17 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Dr. Martinez enjoyed a 57-year
18 marriage with his wife, Beatrice, and he was the proud father of a
19 daughter, Diana, and three sons who all attended Texas A&M, Homer,
20 Ed, and Joe, as did his grandson, Homer Martinez III; and

21 WHEREAS, Homer Martinez lived a full and generous life in the
22 service of his community, his nation, and his beloved alma mater,
23 and his contributions will resonate for years to come; now,
24 therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
26 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life and legacy of Homer T.
27 Martinez.