

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 2232

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mabel Garza, Christian Perez, Jason Perez, Mateo
2 Requenez, and Ramiro Soliz, students at Falfurrias High School,
3 made a stellar showing as finalists in the National History Day
4 contest, held in College Park, Maryland, June 12-16, 2016; and

5 WHEREAS, The FHS team's group exhibit, "Irma Lerma Rangel:
6 Leveling the Playing Field for All," paid tribute to the pioneering
7 Texas politician, who became the first Mexican American woman
8 elected to the state legislature in 1976; a first-place finish in
9 local competition advanced the team to the Coastal Bend Regional
10 History Day contest in Kingsville, where they won the championship;
11 at the state-level meet in Austin, they placed second in a field of
12 36 group exhibits, qualifying for entry in the National History Day
13 competition; and

14 WHEREAS, The students from FHS were among more than 3,000
15 contestants facing off at the national level; their exhibit went on
16 to place in the top 20 out of a field of 146, and it was also honored
17 with the Outstanding Entry from Texas Award; this significant
18 achievement was the culmination of over 175 hours of research,
19 during which the students documented more than 100 sources and
20 conducted 30 personal interviews in an effort to fully portray the
21 life of Irma Rangel; along the way, they received support and
22 encouragement from a number of individuals, including family
23 members, former chiefs of staff and colleagues, and others who knew
24 Ms. Rangel and benefited from her committed work as a public

1 servant; and

2 WHEREAS, Through the time, effort, and thought that they
3 invested in constructing their superb exhibit, these notable young
4 Texans have brought great credit to themselves while focusing
5 well-deserved attention on a distinguished figure in Texas history,
6 and they may reflect with pride on a job well done; now, therefore,
7 be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
9 Legislature hereby congratulate Mabel Garza, Christian Perez,
10 Jason Perez, Mateo Requenez, and Ramiro Soliz for their exceptional
11 performance at the 2016 National History Day competition and extend
12 to them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
14 for the students as an expression of high regard by the Texas House
15 of Representatives.