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By:  Israel H.R. No. 176

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Texas filmmaker David Blue Garcia has garnered considerable critical acclaim and several film festival awards with his Texas-themed debut feature film, *Tejano*; and

WHEREAS, A native of South Texas, Mr. Garcia grew up in Harlingen, where he got interested in film at the age of 13; after earning a radio, television, and film degree from The University of Texas at Austin, he established a successful career as a director and cinematographer of high-profile commercials, and he has also been involved in the production of numerous feature films, shorts, documentaries, news programs, and corporate films; and

WHEREAS, Set and filmed entirely in the Rio Grande Valley, *Tejano* is a Spanish-language thriller that tells the story of a young ranch hand who, desperate to raise money for his sick grandfather, finds himself caught up in drug trafficking along the border; directed and cowritten by Mr. Garcia, the film includes area residents in the cast and features distinctive locations in Harlingen, Brownsville, and McAllen; and

WHEREAS, This independent film was produced on an extremely low budget that did not rise to the minimum level necessary to qualify for the state's filmmaking incentive program; although Mr. Garcia could have made the feature in nearby states that have lower minimum requirements, he was determined to film this story in Texas, with Texans working as cast and crew; his passionate belief in the talent and potential of the Lone Star State's film community has inspired him to become a powerful advocate for increased financial resources to support low-budget projects in Texas; and

WHEREAS, *Tejano* has proven to be an auspicious debut, garnering strong reviews and earning multiple awards on the festival circuit, including prizes from the Dallas International Film Festival, the South Texas International Film Festival, the El Paso Film Festival, the Queen Palm International Film Festival, and the CineSol Film Festival; and

WHEREAS, Through his considerable skill and admirable determination, David Blue Garcia worked against the odds to create a compelling and entertaining film that makes a bold new contribution to the proud legacy of cinematic art in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate David Blue Garcia on the success of his feature film *Tejano* and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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