86R26319 CW-D

By:  Moody H.R. No. 1263

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Fernando Rodriguez Jr. has earned great distinction by becoming the first El Paso native to take the field for the El Paso Chihuahuas minor league baseball team; and

WHEREAS, This milestone comes five years after the Chihuahuas played their inaugural season in 2014; the ball club is a Triple-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres and competes in the Pacific Coast League; and

WHEREAS, Signed by the Padres on January 22, 2019, Fernie Rodriguez took part in the club's extended spring training program before joining the El Paso roster; the 34-year-old right-handed relief pitcher debuted with the Chihuahuas on April 9, striking out four batters in two scoreless innings of work at Tacoma; and

WHEREAS, A standout player at Franklin High School and El Paso Community College, Mr. Rodriguez was chosen by the Anaheim Angels in the 2003 draft; he went on to appear in a total of 216 major league games with the Angels, Houston Astros, and Oakland Athletics, notching 242 strikeouts in 231.2 innings; he is working his way back to the big leagues after being sidelined by injuries in 2017 and 2018; and

WHEREAS, Fernie Rodriguez has pursued his goals with remarkable drive and an enduring commitment to excellence, and he may take great pride in becoming the first hometown athlete to play for El Paso's minor league team; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Fernando Rodriguez Jr. on becoming the first native of El Paso to play for the El Paso Chihuahuas baseball team and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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