

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 335

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Maria Luisa Garza retired as superintendent of
2 Dr. M. L. Garza-Gonzalez Charter School in Corpus Christi on
3 January 30, 2018, drawing to a close an exemplary career in
4 education; and

5 WHEREAS, A longtime advocate for disadvantaged students,
6 Dr. Garza initially launched the school in 1980 as the educational
7 branch of the Gulf Coast Council of La Raza; the council, which she
8 cofounded with her husband, Ricardo Gonzalez, provides critical
9 services for at-risk youth and their families; under her
10 outstanding leadership, the institution earned state accreditation
11 in 1993 and was awarded charter school status in 1996; she also
12 helped secure funding for the new 60,000-square-foot campus that
13 opened in 2002; the school, which was originally called the Academy
14 of Transitional Studies, was later renamed in Dr. Garza's honor; in
15 2016, this first-generation charter school was recognized by the
16 State Board of Education for 20 years of operation under the Texas
17 Education Agency; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Garza completed a bachelor's degree and a
19 doctorate in education from Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and
20 she holds two master's degrees from Corpus Christi State
21 University; the recipient of numerous accolades, she was honored in
22 2013 with a Y Women in Careers Award by the YWCA of Corpus Christi;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Through her dedicated efforts to foster a supportive

1 and challenging educational environment, Dr. Maria Garza has made a
2 positive difference in the lives of many young Texans, and she may
3 take well-deserved pride in her exceptional record of achievement;
4 now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Maria Luisa Garza on her
7 retirement as superintendent of Dr. M. L. Garza-Gonzalez Charter
8 School and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for Dr. Garza as an expression of high regard by the Texas
12 House of Representatives.