

By: Romero, Jr.

H.R. No. 791

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta has made a lasting, positive
2 difference through her work as a Chicano rights activist and one of
3 the most influential labor leaders of our era; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1955, Ms. Huerta cofounded the Stockton,
5 California, chapter of the Community Services Organization, a
6 grassroots group dedicated to ending segregation, discrimination,
7 and police brutality while improving social and economic conditions
8 for farmworkers; she then launched the Agricultural Workers
9 Association and joined forces with Cesar Chavez in 1962 to
10 establish the National Farm Workers Association; three years later,
11 the AWA and NFWA merged to become the United Farm Workers; her skill
12 as an organizer and negotiator proved key in the grape workers'
13 strike that lasted from 1965 to 1970 and ended with a historic
14 agreement that brought unemployment and health care benefits and
15 reduced the use of dangerous pesticides; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Huerta went on to galvanize national attention
17 with the lettuce boycott, paving the way for the Agricultural Labor
18 Relations Act of 1975, the first law to recognize collective
19 bargaining rights for farmworkers; in subsequent decades, she
20 served as UFW vice president and advocated powerfully for such
21 causes as comprehensive immigration reform, women's rights, and
22 greater representation of Latinos and women in public office; since
23 stepping down as vice president in 1999, she has continued her vital
24 endeavors by focusing on a range of issues, including income

1 inequality; and

2 WHEREAS, Widely admired for her contributions, Ms. Huerta
3 was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1993, and she
4 was presented with the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights in
5 1998; her receipt of the \$100,000 Puffin/Nation Prize for Creative
6 Citizenship in 2002 allowed her to create the Dolores Huerta
7 Foundation, which helps individuals in low-income communities to
8 build organizing and training skills; and

9 WHEREAS, For more than a half century, Dolores Huerta has
10 dedicated herself to improving the lives of working people and
11 holding our nation to its high ideals of equality and justice, and
12 her achievements are a lasting source of hope and inspiration; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor Dolores Huerta for her accomplishments in
16 the labor and civil rights movements and extend to her sincere best
17 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Ms. Huerta as an expression of high regard by the Texas
20 House of Representatives.