

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 1680

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Artist Cruz Ortiz of San Antonio has distinguished  
2 himself by using his talent to increase engagement in the political  
3 process; and

4 WHEREAS, An activist as well as an artist, Mr. Ortiz has  
5 created compelling posters for the Texas Democratic Convention and  
6 for numerous campaigns for public office at the local, state, and  
7 national levels; his singular style draws from Latino pop culture,  
8 street art, and the DIY aesthetic of punk rock, sparking interest in  
9 people not usually interested in politics; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Ortiz has also hosted benefits that draw an  
11 eclectic crowd; in 2008, he raised nearly \$5,000 for Barack Obama's  
12 presidential campaign at a silk-screening party, and he later  
13 received a thank-you letter from the White House; and

14 WHEREAS, Born in Houston in 1972, Mr. Ortiz grew up in a  
15 Democratic household; he earned his bachelor's degree in fine arts  
16 at The University of Texas at San Antonio and taught art at Lee High  
17 School for 15 years before launching a design business, Snake Hawk  
18 Press; he and his employees use vintage equipment from a legendary  
19 West Side print shop that once served many local Democrats; in  
20 addition to high-profile political commissions, he has completed  
21 commercial projects for a number of national brands, and his work in  
22 a variety of media, including installations, performance art, and  
23 video, has been exhibited at Artpace San Antonio, the Contemporary  
24 Arts Museum Houston, and the San Juan Poly/Graphic Triennial in

1 Puerto Rico, among many other institutions and events; and

2 WHEREAS, Cruz Ortiz has won the respect and appreciation of  
3 innumerable people through both his art and his activism, and his  
4 admirers look forward with anticipation to his next projects; now,  
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby honor Cruz Ortiz for his artistic  
8 accomplishments and contributions to civic life and extend to him  
9 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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