H.R. No. 710

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Bonnie Soria Najera of El Paso has demonstrated remarkable courage and compassion by advocating for public health measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, in the face of unimaginable personal loss; and

WHEREAS, The District 7 trustee of El Paso Community College, Ms. Najera has lost six family members to the deadly disease; in May of 2020, her mother, Rosie Soria, contracted COVID-19 and was hospitalized, and shortly thereafter, Ms. Najera's father, Leo Soria, was diagnosed with the disease and placed in a different hospital; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Soria died within weeks of each other, and they were buried together; in July 2020, Ms. Najera herself suffered a severe bout of the virus, requiring several days of hospitalization, and by November 2020, she had lost four more family members to COVID-19, including two aunts, an uncle, and her cousin; and

WHEREAS, Because of her tragic personal experience, Ms. Najera has become a powerful advocate for practicing appropriate public safety measures during the pandemic; in social media posts and in an appearance on *Good Morning America*, she has spoken out about the need for the public to wear face masks, to maintain social distancing, and to avoid large gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Texans have suffered tremendous hardship and loss during this global health crisis, and by sharing her story with the public, Bonnie Najera has demonstrated remarkable fortitude and concern for others, in the hope of saving her fellow Texans from the pain and grief she has endured; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commend Bonnie Soria Najera for her advocacy of public health measures during the COVID-19 pandemic and extend to her sincere condolences on the loss of her loved ones; and, be it further

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

González of El Paso

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 710 was adopted by the House on April 23, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House