

By: Longoria

H.R. No. 635

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, For six years, volunteers with the organization  
2 Emily's Meals have set an inspiring example of compassion toward  
3 people experiencing homelessness in the McAllen community; and

4           WHEREAS, The organization began in 2015, after six-year-old  
5 Emily Aguirre saw a homeless man while running errands with her  
6 father, Rick Aguirre; the caring young girl asked her father how the  
7 man lived and where he was going to find food, and after reflecting  
8 on his daughter's concerns, Mr. Aguirre decided to purchase a meal  
9 for the man; this act of kindness proved to be the first of many for  
10 the members of the Aguirre family, who committed themselves to the  
11 goal of feeding one homeless person every day for the 40 days of  
12 Lent; and

13           WHEREAS, That original goal led the Aguirres to launch  
14 Emily's Meals in 2015; they began by preparing meals in their home  
15 to deliver to homeless and hungry individuals, and as more  
16 volunteers joined the cause, they have since been able to  
17 distribute between 40 and 50 meals each day, for a total of more  
18 than 10,000 meals annually; the organization also provides such  
19 items as clothing, tents, bicycles, running shoes, bus tickets, and  
20 toiletries, and they work to connect homeless people with local  
21 agencies that can further help them; beyond simply feeding and  
22 offering supplies, volunteers with Emily's Meals take the time to  
23 learn the names, stories, needs, hopes, and fears of the people they  
24 serve, encouraging empathy and understanding for a population that

1 can sometimes go overlooked; and

2           WHEREAS, In 2016, Emily's Meals became an official ministry  
3 of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church; that same year, the  
4 organization held the first of a series of picnics, where homeless  
5 clients could receive meals, get a free haircut, shop for donated  
6 clothing, and access needed services such as blood tests, health  
7 checkups, and mental health evaluations; the organization also has  
8 a shower truck and a small food pantry that is located on the  
9 grounds of the Palmer Drug Abuse Program; and

10           WHEREAS, Emily's Meals has touched the lives of countless  
11 individuals who might otherwise go without sustenance and support,  
12 and the Aguirre family and the organization's volunteers are indeed  
13 deserving of recognition for their generous efforts; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby commend Emily Aguirre and the Aguirre family for  
17 their dedicated work with Emily's Meals and extend to them sincere  
18 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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