

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 678

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family owned and operated restaurants contribute to
2 the cultural richness of the Lone Star State, and Snapka's Drive Inn
3 has been a popular dining destination in Corpus Christi for more
4 than seven decades; and

5 WHEREAS, One day in the late 1940s, two brothers, Method and
6 Rudy Snapka, were driving out of Corpus Christi scouting for a place
7 to build a drive-in restaurant when their 1942 Oldsmobile broke
8 down in Robstown, and on July 5, 1948, they opened the first
9 Snapka's Drive Inn at the spot where their car had died; and

10 WHEREAS, In the early days, a hot dog was 10 cents, a
11 hamburger was 20 cents, and a glass of root beer was a nickel; the
12 first location was so successful that a second Snapka's was opened
13 on Leopard Street in Corpus Christi in 1953; that same year, the
14 restaurant added tacos to the menu, and in 1956, a third location
15 was opened on Weber Road; in 1969, the family purchased two Golden
16 Dome drive-ins, for a total of five locations in South Texas; and

17 WHEREAS, Method Snapka was named Outstanding Restaurateur of
18 the Year by the Corpus Christi Restaurant Association in 1967, and
19 three years later, he was elected president of the organization;
20 after Hurricane Celia damaged all five locations in August 1970,
21 two of them were shuttered, and the Robstown location was also
22 closed when Rudy Snapka retired in 1977; he passed away in 1995, and
23 his brother Method died in 2002; and

24 WHEREAS, Today, Snapka's Drive Inn continues to thrive at the

1 Weber Road and Leopard Street locations under the management of
2 Method Snapka's daughter, Kathy, and his wife, Maxine, who at the
3 age of 98 is one of the oldest original owners still running a
4 drive-in in the Lone Star State; Maxine's 100-year-old sister,
5 Gerda, oversees the Weber Road location; and

6 WHEREAS, Snapka's Drive Inn has won the loyalty of many area
7 residents while contributing to the prosperity of the local
8 economy, and over the course of nearly 75 years, it has attained the
9 status of a treasured community institution; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
11 Legislature hereby commend the Snapka family of Corpus Christi on
12 the success of Snapka's Drive Inn and extend to them sincere best
13 wishes for the future; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for the family as an expression of high regard by the Texas
16 House of Representatives.