By: González of El Paso

H.R. No. 710

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Bonnie Soria Najera of El Paso has demonstrated 2 remarkable courage and compassion by advocating for public health 3 measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, in the face of unimaginable 4 personal loss; and

5 WHEREAS, The District 7 trustee of El Paso Community College, 6 Ms. Najera has lost six family members to the deadly disease; in May 7 of 2020, her mother, Rosie Soria, contracted COVID-19 and was 8 hospitalized, and shortly thereafter, Ms. Najera's father, Leo 9 Soria, was diagnosed with the disease and placed in a different 10 hospital; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Soria died within weeks of each other, 12 and they were buried together; in July 2020, Ms. Najera herself 13 suffered a severe bout of the virus, requiring several days of 14 hospitalization, and by November 2020, she had lost four more 15 family members to COVID-19, including two aunts, an uncle, and her 16 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

23 WHEREAS, Texans have suffered tremendous hardship and loss 24 during this global health crisis, and by sharing her story with the

1

1 public, Bonnie Najera has demonstrated remarkable fortitude and 2 concern for others, in the hope of saving her fellow Texans from the 3 pain and grief she has endured; now, therefore, be it

H.R. No. 710

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

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

2