

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 1970

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Over the course of their lives, Lauro and Maria  
2 Celia Lopez shared an enduring love story, and their family is  
3 celebrating the couple's legacy of commitment; and

4           WHEREAS, A native of Rio Grande City, Lauro L. Lopez was born  
5 on May 20, 1924, to Otila Zarate and Ernesto Lopez; after graduating  
6 from Rio Grande City High School, he enlisted in the United States  
7 Army in 1943; he was deployed to Shrivenham, England, where he was  
8 stationed at the headquarters of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and  
9 he went on to serve as a medical clerk-typist at a field hospital in  
10 Europe; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Lopez was honorably discharged in 1946, and  
12 after returning home, he studied geology at The University of Texas  
13 at Austin; for a time, he worked in the garment district in New York  
14 while pursuing a career in photography; in 1948, he moved back to  
15 Rio Grande City, where he sold cars, worked on the Falcon Dam  
16 project, and found employment at LFD Furniture Store; and

17           WHEREAS, Maria Celia Lopez was born in Rio Grande City on  
18 November 6, 1928, to Mateo and Hortencia Saenz; she graduated from  
19 Rio Grande City High School in 1945, and she subsequently earned her  
20 license to become a hairdresser, her lifelong passion; she went on  
21 to open the Co-ed Beauty Shop, which she ran for 22 years; and

22           WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Lopez shared a remarkable 67 years of  
23 marriage; their family grew to include five children, Daniel,  
24 Diana, Dalinda, Delia, and David Lauro Lopez, who preceded his

1 parents in death, as well as a number of grandchildren and  
2 great-grandchildren; partners in life as well as in business, the  
3 couple owned and operated Triple L Furniture & Appliance, which  
4 Mr. Lopez opened in 1970, with Mrs. Lopez serving as the store's  
5 office manager; after 35 years, they closed the store and retired in  
6 2005; and

7       WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Lopez were actively involved in a  
8 number of organizations; Mr. Lopez served as president of the Rio  
9 Grande City Chamber of Commerce and vice president of the Rio Grande  
10 Valley Partnership, and he helped lead the successful effort to  
11 reincorporate Rio Grande City in 1993; he held other prominent  
12 positions in the community as mayor pro tempore, city alderman, and  
13 chair of the South Texas Economic Development Corporation, and in  
14 1999, he was appointed by then-Governor George W. Bush to the South  
15 Texas Development Council, where he chaired the board of directors;  
16 a charter member of his local Rotary Club, he was a recipient of the  
17 Paul Harris Fellow award in 1997; and

18       WHEREAS, Both husband and wife were parishioners of  
19 Immaculate Conception Church and active members of the Order of the  
20 Alhambra, El Cid Caravan No. 106, which Mr. Lopez led as grand  
21 commander; Mr. Lopez was a fourth degree Knight of Columbus, while  
22 Mrs. Lopez was involved in her children's education as a PTA member  
23 of the Immaculate Conception School, and she also participated in  
24 the Sewing Club and other organizations; they enjoyed traveling  
25 throughout the United States and the world and socializing with  
26 their many friends; Mr. Lopez passed away on June 25, 2016, at the  
27 age of 92, and Mrs. Lopez passed away on March 19, 2018, at the age

1 of 89; and

2 WHEREAS, Through their commitment to their family, their  
3 faith, and their community, Lauro and Maria Celia Lopez touched the  
4 lives of countless people during their time on this earth, and they  
5 will forever be remembered with admiration by all those who held  
6 them dear; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Lauro and Maria  
9 Celia Lopez; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for their family and that when the Texas House of  
12 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lauro and  
13 Maria Celia Lopez.