

By: Zwiener

H.R. No. 1332

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Helen and Rene Alcala are being posthumously honored  
2 with the 2025 Local Legends Award as part of Buda's Official  
3 Birthday Celebration on April 5, 2025; and

4 WHEREAS, Established in 2022, the Local Legends Award is  
5 presented annually by the Buda City Council to recognize  
6 individuals who have made significant and enduring contributions to  
7 the community; Local Legends embody the spirit of Buda, and past  
8 honorees have included community organizers, volunteers, and  
9 teachers; and

10 WHEREAS, Helen and Rene Alcala had a lasting and positive  
11 influence on the city through their beloved restaurant, Helen's  
12 Casa Alde; founded in 1980 by Mrs. Alcala and her husband, Pedro,  
13 the business was the first Mexican restaurant in the city, and it  
14 became a popular community gathering place; a third-generation  
15 native of the Buda area, Mrs. Alcala worked as a child nutrition  
16 employee with the Hays Consolidated Independent School District for  
17 many years prior to opening the business; and

18 WHEREAS, After Mrs. Alcala passed away in 2017 at the age of  
19 93, her son, Rene, took over ownership of Helen's Casa Alde; he  
20 proved himself a skilled business owner and preserved the  
21 establishment's welcoming atmosphere as well as his mother's  
22 delectable recipes; the restaurant remained a popular destination  
23 even in the face of such challenges as a destructive fire in 2020;  
24 Mr. Alcala reopened Casa Alde as a food truck behind Mrs. Alcala's

1 old family home and continued to serve its loyal customers; he  
2 passed away on October 12, 2022, at the age of 65; and

3 WHEREAS, Helen and Rene Alcala contributed greatly to Buda's  
4 vibrant dining scene through their vision and dedication, and it is  
5 a pleasure to join in recognizing their achievements; now,  
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby honor Helen and Rene Alcala on the occasion of  
9 their posthumous receipt of the 2025 Local Legends Award and pay  
10 tribute to the memory of these respected Buda residents.