

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 445

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez served his Nation and the people of the 20th District of Texas in San Antonio with honor and distinction for 37 years as a Member of the United States House of Representatives;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez became an internationally recognized leader in the fields of banking and housing, having held more than 500 hearings as Chairman of the Com-

mittee on Banking and Urban Affairs, and having shepherded more than 70 bills from introduction to enactment into law, including landmark legislation to revamp and rescue the United States savings and loan industry;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez focused the attention of the House of Representatives on solving numerous and challenging public policy problems, especially the needs of the poor and the powerless, including making affordable housing available to the poor, making credit more readily available to underprivileged communities and small businesses, making the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System more transparent and accountable to the United States public, and strengthening civil rights for all Americans;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez represents the quintessential American success story by virtue of having become the first American of Mexican descent in Texas history to represent Texas in the United States House of Representatives, and one of the first Mexican-Americans to rise to the position of Chairman of a major congressional committee of the House of Representatives;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez served his country in World War II in military intelligence, and taught math to veterans and citizenship classes to resident immigrants seeking American citizenship;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez leaves a proud legacy to his hometown of San Antonio (in whose public schools he was educated), encouraging the development of public housing, 2 major medical centers, numerous development projects, and the public laws he authored that brought the HemisFair '68 World's Fair to San Antonio, thereby

making the city a recognized center for international conventions and tourism;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez, a champion for the down-trodden and the poor (exemplified, among other things, by his 22-hour long filibuster of segregationist bills in the Texas Senate in the 1950's), consistently brought his skill and passion to bear on behalf of the underprivileged, thereby making our Nation a much better place;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez, a modest man of great popularity and of a fervently independent character, was awarded the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for his display of political courage as a leader who acted on principle throughout his multifaceted career, without fear or favor;

Whereas Henry B. Gonzalez will always remain an enduring symbol of integrity, independence, solid principles, and strength of character, and will always remind us of what it means to give honorable public service, as he did to his San Antonio constituents, the State of Texas, and to all Americans: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 That the Congress—

4 (1) has learned with profound sorrow of the
5 death of the Honorable Henry Barbosa Gonzalez on
6 November 28, 2000, and extends condolences to the
7 Gonzalez family, and especially to his wife Bertha
8 and their 8 children;

1 (2) expresses its profound gratitude to the Hon-
2 orable Henry Barbosa Gonzalez and his family for
3 the service that he rendered to his country; and

4 (3) recognizes with appreciation and respect the
5 Honorable Henry Barbosa Gonzalez's commitment
6 to and example of leadership and commitment to
7 public service and to his constituents, and his serv-
8 ing as a role model for generations to come.

9 **SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION OF ENROLLED RESOLUTION**

10 The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall
11 transmit an enrolled copy of this Concurrent Resolution
12 to the family of the Honorable Henry Barbosa Gonzalez.

 Passed the House of Representatives December 15,
2000.

Attest:

Clerk.

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In honor of Henry B. Gonzalez.