



L. DEWITT HALE
WILSON BUILDING
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS
78401

THE STATE OF TEXAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AUSTIN, TEXAS

78711
July 3, 1968

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
1315 Bright
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Dr. Garcia:

I am enclosing several copies of H.S.R. No. 113, passed by the House of Representatives yesterday, honoring you for your outstanding contributions to our state and nation.

It was a real honor for me to sponsor this resolution and provide you this recognition which you so justly merit.

Until I have an opportunity to visit with you personally, please accept my kindest personal regards and best wishes for you and your family.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "L. Dewitt Hale".

L. DEWITT HALE

LDH:lm

3 Enclosures

July 3

H.S.R. No. 113

By

Hale
Reeder
Seagins

HOUSE SIMPLE RESOLUTION

Congratulating Dr. Hector P. Garcia of Corpus Christi for outstanding service to the people of Texas and the United States.

WHEREAS, on the twelfth day of September, 1967, the President of the United States announced the appointment of Dr. Hector P. Garcia of Corpus Christi as an alternate member of the United States Delegation to the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hector P. Garcia was in New York City on September 19, 1967, for the opening session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, thus becoming the first American with a Spanish surname to represent this country in the august International Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Garcia served throughout the 1967 Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations with great distinction to himself, his state and his nation, becoming the first American to make a formal address to the General Assembly in the Spanish language, and winning many friends for his country by his understanding of mutual problems and by his devotion to service of all mankind; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Garcia was born in the village of Llera, in northern Mexico, and moved with his parents to the United States at the age of four, residing in Mercedes in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, graduated from Mercedes High School, Edinburgh Junior College, received a Bachelors degree from the University of Texas in 1936, later obtaining his medical degree from the University of Texas School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Garcia served his country in World War II in the United States Army, winning the bronze star with six

battle stars and ended the war with the rank of Major in the Medical Corps of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, the problems of the Latin-American people residing in the United States, economic, social, and political, became a major concern of Dr. Hector P. Garcia early in his medical career and he became a leading spokesman for the Mexican-Americans in Corpus Christi and south Texas, being a vigorous opponent of discrimination in areas of education, employment, medical attention and housing for all of the people of Mexican descent; and

WHEREAS, the work of this outstanding Texan on behalf of his fellow Americans led to the founding on March 26, 1948, of an organization which became known as The American G. I. Forum, an organization designed primarily for Mexican-Americans but open for membership to anyone who believes in the principle of equality under the law for all people regardless of race, creed or color, said organization having been expanded throughout the Southern part of the United States and now having branches in more than twenty-four of the American states; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hector P. Garcia was co-chairman of the National Viva Kennedy Clubs in 1960, and was instrumental in carrying many of the Western states including Texas, for John F. Kennedy for President of the United States, with Dr. Garcia later becoming a President of the Political Association of Spanish Speaking Organization; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, Dr. Garcia was selected to attend a White House conference to discuss the problems of the Latin-American citizens, and made monumental contributions to the legislative and political programs of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations for the alleviation of these problems; and

WHEREAS, he was named by President Kennedy as a special ambassador at the signing of the Mutual Defense Agreement with the West Indies in 1961 and was later named a presidential representative at the Inauguration of Dr. Raul Leoni as President of Venezuela in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hector P. Garcia has served his country with outstanding distinction in the many capacities in which he has been called to serve, reflecting credit upon himself, upon the Latin-American people, and upon the State of Texas, which distinction the Legislature of Texas desires to recognize and commend; now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 60th Texas Legislature, convened in its first called session, that its highest commendation be extended to Dr. Hector P. Garcia for his distinguished leadership among the Latin-American people of Texas, for his outstanding contribution to the welfare and progress of south Texas, and for his devoted service to his state and his nation in both peace and war; and be it further

RESOLVED that an enrolled copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Garcia as a token of the esteem and respect in which he is held by the membership of this House, who wish every success and happiness to him and his family in the years to come.

H.S.R. No. 113

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