

By: Galindo

H.R. No. 1443

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Alamo is recognized around the world as a symbol
2 of freedom and an inspiration to those battling against foreign
3 oppression, and the United States Department of the Interior has
4 formally nominated the Alamo and four other Spanish colonial
5 missions in San Antonio for designation as a site on the World
6 Heritage List; and

7 WHEREAS, In the 18th century, the city of San Antonio began to
8 develop around five missions founded by Spain, namely San José y San
9 Miguel de Aguayo, Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción de
10 Acuña, San Francisco de la Espada, San Juan Capistrano, and San
11 Antonio de Valero, better known as the Alamo; these represent the
12 largest concentration of Catholic missions in North America; and

13 WHEREAS, World Heritage designation is granted under the
14 World Heritage Convention, which works to enhance understanding,
15 appreciation, and international cooperation for heritage
16 conservation; in 1973, the United States became one of the nearly
17 200 nations to ratify the convention, an independent treaty
18 administered under the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and
19 Cultural Organization; current listed sites include the Egyptian
20 pyramids and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, as well as our nation's
21 Statue of Liberty and Grand Canyon; if accepted, the San Antonio
22 missions would become the first World Heritage site in the State of
23 Texas; and

24 WHEREAS, A Bexar County study found that World Heritage

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1 status for the missions would yield more than \$100 million in
2 economic impact over a 10-year period, while generating 1,000 local
3 jobs and \$2 million in hotel tax revenue; the City of San Antonio is
4 supporting the nomination for this designation, and in so doing, it
5 is both promoting economic development and helping to raise global
6 awareness of the unique cultural heritage of the Lone Star State;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
9 Legislature hereby endorse the nomination of San Antonio's Spanish
10 colonial missions as a World Heritage site.