



The Senate of The State of Texas

SENATE PROCLAMATION NO. 237

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the South Texas Indian Dancers for the many years they have shared their time-honored traditions, their culture, and their music with the people of the Lower Rio Grande Valley and to pay tribute to their founder, Robert Soto; and

WHEREAS, On October 24 and 25, 2003, the dancers are having their 14th Annual South Texas (Way South) Pow Wow at the Palm View Library and Community Center in McAllen; and

WHEREAS, The South Texas Indian Dancers organization was founded by Robert Soto and his family 30 years ago to help preserve the tradition of their ancestors, the Lipan Apache people who once ruled the area; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Soto family are direct descendants of Lipan Apache Chief Poca Ropa, who signed the Lipan Apache Peace Treaty with Mexico on August 17, 1822, to ensure the peace and safety of the people in the Lower Rio Grande Valley; the majority of the members of the South Texas Indian Dancers are members of the Lipan Apache Band of Texas, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, The Lipan Apaches camped along the banks of the Rio Grande and the green pastures of the Lower Rio Grande Valley from the early 1700s through the late 1800s; and

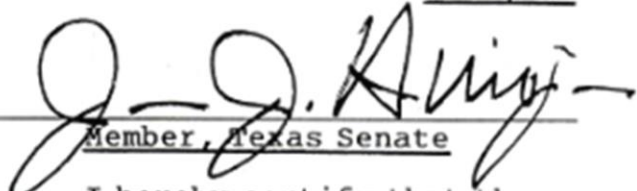
WHEREAS, The South Texas Indian Dancers have made enormous contributions to the culture and history of the Lower Rio Grande Valley and they deserve recognition for their accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

PROCLAIMED, That the Senate of the State of Texas hereby commend Robert Soto and his family and the South Texas Indian Dancers for sharing their rich culture and heritage with the people of South Texas and extend to them best wishes for a successful 14th Annual South Texas (Way South) Pow Wow; and, be it further

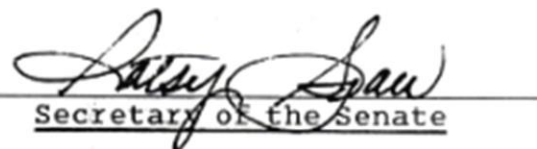
PROCLAIMED, That a copy of this Proclamation be prepared as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.



Hinojosa


Member, Texas Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Proclamation was adopted. —


Secretary of the Senate