

Proclamation

Keeping the Lights On After School: A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the citizens of the County of Hidalgo stand firmly committed to quality after school programs and opportunities because they:

- Provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural and academic skills.
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends.
- Build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families and adults.
- Engage families, schools and diverse community partners in advancing the welfare of our children.

WHEREAS, Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg RGV, Hargil School, and Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality after school programs are key to helping our children become successful adults.

WHEREAS, *Lights On After School*, a national celebration of after school programs on October 12, promotes the critical importance of quality after school programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities.

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 14.3 million children have no place to go after school.

WHEREAS, many after school programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Judge Ramon Garcia do hereby proclaim October 12, 2006, as "*Lights On After School Day*"; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Judge Ramon Garcia Of the County of Hidalgo, Texas enthusiastically endorses *Lights On After School* and commits our county to engage in innovative after school programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

Passed and approved this the _____ day of _____, 2006.

Ramon Garcia, Hidalgo County Judge

Sylvia Handy, Commissioner Pct. 1

Hector Palacios, Commissioner Pct. 2

Joe M. Flores, Commissioner Pct. 3

Oscar L. Garza, Commissioner Pct. 4