

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF IRMA PEÑA
FOR 35 YEARS OF SERVICE**

WHEREAS, Ms. Irma Peña is being honored for her exceptional work and dedication to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program after serving with distinction and integrity for the past 35 years; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Edinburg, she was born to Rogelio and Lupita Salazar and she is the youngest of six children. Ms. Peña is married to Jesus “Tony” Peña and they have one son, Felipe; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Edinburg High School, Ms. Peña went on to earn a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Social Work from The University of Texas-Pan American, and is an accredited licensed master social worker with the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, after working as a volunteer, in 1980 she officially began her Head Start career as an Assistant Teacher and working her way up to Family Services Director, as well as briefly serving as Interim Head Start Executive Director from 1994 to 1996; and

WHEREAS, as Family Services Director, Ms. Peña was responsible for recruitment, eligibility, selection and enrollment. She also oversaw social services, the volunteer program, parent engagement and training for the Head Start Grantee Board and the Policy Council; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure, Ms. Peña was instrumental in pioneering and initiating the Parent Leadership Conference & Governance Leadership Institute; authoring the program’s “Family Partnership Agreement,” which was later approved by the Regional Head Start Technical support center and utilized statewide; and developing the program’s first Administrative Operational Plan, Community Assessment and Strategic Plans; and

WHEREAS, after serving for more than three decades, Ms. Peña is taking the next step in her career having accepted a position as the Early Head Start Program Director for SER National and will be relocating to Irving, Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby recognizes and honors Irma Peña for her outstanding service, dedication, and commitment during 35 years of service to the families of the Hidalgo County Head Start Program, and on this day wishes her continued success in her next endeavor.

Dated this 2nd day of June 2015.

RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

A.C. CUELLAR JR.
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO “EDDIE” CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct.3

JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk