

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF ANDY VELIZ**

**WHEREAS**, Andy Veliz was born on February 2, 1943 in Sebastian, Texas and is a native of Weslaco, Texas; he began singing at the age of 5 years old and got his first break on live TV on the Ty Cobb Show in Weslaco; and

**WHEREAS**, Veliz grew up with music in his life and new that education is key to success, he graduated from Lyford High school in 1961, and aspired to become a teacher; in 1965 he achieved his aspiration by earning a Bachelor in Education degree at Texas A&I University; he then attended the University of Texas at Austin in 1974 where he earned a Master in Education Administration degree; and

**WHEREAS**, during his career as a public educator, Veliz still pursued his love of music, and in 1980 while driving home from a performance, he came up with an idea for a hit song; he wrote a song called "Lonely Nights Without You," though the song did not receive immediate fame with local radio stations, Veliz continued to lobby his song and got a break with KRGE Radio, soon after the song became a statewide hit in 1980; and

**WHEREAS**, Veliz garnered a successful public education career where he taught English and Math at several High Schools throughout the Valley and held numerous administration positions, however his love of music always followed him and he became known as the "The Singing Principal"; and

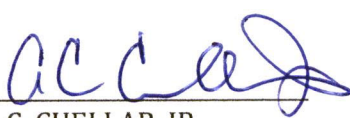
**WHEREAS**, after 29 years of public education, Veliz retired in 2001 and is currently a Professor at the University of Texas - Pan American beginning his college teaching career at the College of Education, Office of Field Experiences; he is also actively involved in the City of Weslaco serving on the Board of Appeals and Adjustments of Zoning for 25 years;

**WHEREAS**, Veliz music career led him to write and produce the hit songs; "Come Along to Heaven" and "Lonely Nights Without You," he recently released a compilation album he recorded with high school students called "Through the Years"; and

**WHEREAS**, Veliz is married to Thelma E. Veliz; they have one daughter, Sheree who is married to Carlos Gonzalez; they have three grandchildren Patrick, Andres, and Evie Rose Gonzalez.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby recognizes and honors Andy Veliz for his tenacity to achieve his aspirations in life by becoming an educator to Hidalgo County students and by using song to express his passion for music.**

**Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013.**


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

  
RAMON GARCIA  
County Judge

  
HECTOR "TITO" PALACIOS  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

  
JOE M. FLORES  
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

  
JOSEPH PALACIOS  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

  
Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.  
Hidalgo County Clerk