



HR1107

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to honor Miguel Felipe Santiago Echegaray for his many accomplishments; and

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WHEREAS, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray was born on April 11, 1941 in Lares, Puerto Rico; at the age of 4, his mother, Maria D. Echegaray, passed away; a year after this unfortunate event, he moved to Quebrada, Camuy, with his father, Hipolito Santiago, and Adela Morales Robles, who cared for him as her own; and

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WHEREAS, After attending Jose Dolores Bonilla Elementary School, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray was transferred to Quebrada Santiago R. Palmer, where he finished his remaining elementary and junior high school years, and attended high school at Maria Cadilla de Martinez in the City of Arecibo; he subsequently attended the University of Puerto Rico in Rio Piedras and earned a Bachelor's Degree in teaching, specializing in Spanish and social studies, and a Master's Degree in Management and Supervision; he is also licensed as a teacher specializing in elementary and high school education and licensed as a principal and assistant principal; and

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WHEREAS, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray began his

1 professional career in 1964 at Santiago R. Palmer Elementary
2 School, where he taught students through 6th grade; in 1975, he
3 was appointed to serve as the principal of this school, serving
4 in this role until September 1977; he then became the Assistant
5 Superintendent responsible for overseeing various auxiliary
6 schools; for 17 years, he served as the Assistant
7 Superintendent in charge of overseeing numerous programs, such
8 as special education, social work, vocational guidance, and
9 supervision, both at the elementary and high school levels; he
10 also served as a teacher and principal at Unidad Santiago R.
11 Palmer High School and as an Assistant Superintendent in Camuy;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, In 1975, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray and several
14 community leaders belonging to various political parties
15 acquired 4,000-acres of land that belonged to Central Soller to
16 develop farms for small and medium-sized farmers; in 1980, he,
17 along with many community leaders from the town of Camuy,
18 joined together to solicit the help of Governor Carlos Romero
19 Barcelo to build a new elementary and junior high school; the
20 school was successfully built and today serves over
21 one-thousand students from the communities of Quebrada, Cibao,
22 Puertos, Santiago, Abra Honda, Lares, and Hatillo; he also
23 advocated for better fitness facilities and repairs to
24 municipal roads; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1984, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray was elected
2 to the Camuy City Council; he was later promoted to President
3 of that body, where he served for 12 consecutive years; he
4 served as President of the City Council of Camuy for 12 years
5 and served for 20 years as a Municipal Legislator; he currently
6 serves as a consultant to the City Council; he also served as
7 the President for the Commission of Camuy, President of the
8 Board of Directors for the Center of Municipal Services in
9 Santiago, President for the Committees for Supervision and
10 Education Union in Quebrada, member of the Education Committee
11 and the Board of Directors for the Cooperative Savings and
12 Credit Union of Quebrada, and Administrator for Las Cavemas
13 Park in Rio Camuy; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1972, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray was
15 recognized by the School District of Camuy as Teacher of the
16 Year; that same year, he was the recipient of the Paul Avila
17 award presented by the Municipal Administration of Camuy; in
18 2007, he received a tribute by the National Puerto Rican Day
19 Parade, Inc.; on November 29, 2012, a new school was named for
20 him in the community of Quebrada in Camuy in honor of his work
21 in the community; and

22 WHEREAS, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray is an active member
23 of the Presbyterian Church in Quebrada; he also served on
24 various committees for the Northeastern Presbyterian

1 Association; and

2 WHEREAS, Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray is the loving husband
3 of Lucy, a retired teacher, and the father of 3 sons, Miguel,
4 Ricardo, and Elisanel; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we honor Miguel Felipe Santiago Echegaray for his many
8 accomplishments and wish him continued success and happiness in
9 the future; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to Miguel F. Santiago Echegaray as a symbol of our
12 esteem and respect.