

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 1523

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Luis H. Zayas has been named provost and senior
2 vice president of academic affairs of The University of Texas Rio
3 Grande Valley; and

4 WHEREAS, Currently serving as the Robert Lee Sutherland Chair
5 in Mental Health and Social Policy at UT Austin, Dr. Zayas holds an
6 appointment as professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at
7 UT Austin's Dell Medical School; he previously served from 2012 to
8 2022 as dean of the UT-Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Zayas was born in Coamo, Puerto Rico; after
10 graduating from Manhattan College with a bachelor's degree in
11 economics and liberal arts, he went on to earn a master's degree in
12 social work and a doctoral degree in developmental psychology from
13 Columbia University; he began his career in New York City as a
14 clinician in social service agencies, general and pediatric
15 rehabilitation hospitals, and mental health and primary care
16 clinics; and

17 WHEREAS, Sharing his experience and expertise with the next
18 generation, Dr. Zayas has taught at Columbia University, Fordham
19 University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and Washington
20 University in St. Louis; the author of three books and more than 130
21 scientific papers and chapters, he has lectured in the U.S. and
22 abroad, and he is a frequent commentator on children's mental
23 health issues; he appeared in a popular TED talk, and he has been
24 featured in such publications as *The New York Times* and *The*

1 *Washington Post*, as well as on NPR, BBC Radio, Telemundo, and other
2 broadcast outlets; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Zayas is nationally recognized not only as a
4 social work researcher and practitioner, but also as a higher
5 education administrator, and his exceptional qualifications,
6 combined with his focus on student achievement and faculty
7 development, are sure to benefit UTRGV in the years to come; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
10 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Luis H. Zayas on his
11 appointment as provost and senior vice president of academic
12 affairs of The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and extend to
13 him sincere best wishes for a successful tenure; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Dr. Zayas as an expression of high regard by the Texas
16 House of Representatives.