

By: Blanco

S.R. No. 219

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Jo Anne Bernal is concluding her service as El Paso
2 County attorney at the end of her term on December 31, 2024, drawing
3 to a close an exemplary tenure; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Bernal was appointed El Paso County attorney by
5 the commissioners court in 2009, becoming the first woman in the
6 county's history to hold the position; since that time, she has
7 worked to uphold the mission of her office by providing
8 high-quality legal services in an ethical, professional, and
9 capable manner; she has provided invaluable legal advice to the
10 county regarding significant issues, such as the COVID-19 pandemic
11 and the migrant crisis, and she also expanded protective order
12 services for victims of stalking and bullying; moreover, she
13 created the Nuisance Abatement Team that uses court orders to help
14 tackle repeat criminal activity in certain areas; in addition to
15 handling complex litigation, she oversees more than 100 employees
16 and manages an annual budget of \$7.5 million; and

17 WHEREAS, Born and raised in El Paso, Ms. Bernal earned her
18 law degree at The University of Texas at Austin and served with the
19 Texas Attorney General's Office for six years prior to joining the
20 El Paso County Attorney's Office in 1993; she is board certified in
21 civil trial law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, and she
22 has been recognized for her many professional accomplishments with
23 the Outstanding Lawyer of the Year Award from the Mexican-American
24 Bar Association and the Outstanding Young Lawyer of El Paso Award

1 from the El Paso Young Lawyers Association; she has also given back
2 to the greater community by sharing her time with numerous worthy
3 organizations, including the Advocacy Center for the Children of El
4 Paso and the Opportunity Center for the Homeless; and

5 WHEREAS, Jo Anne Bernal's skill and dedication have greatly
6 benefited the citizens of El Paso County, and she has earned the
7 admiration and appreciation of her fellow Texans; now, therefore,
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
10 hereby commend Jo Anne Bernal for her service as El Paso County
11 attorney and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and,
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Ms. Bernal as an expression of high regard by the Texas
15 Senate.