

By: LaMantia

S.R. No. 538

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Manuel M. Vela stepped down from his positions as
2 president and chief executive officer of Valley Baptist Health
3 System on April 30, 2023, concluding an exceptional tenure with the
4 organization that spanned more than 19 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Vela first joined Valley Baptist Health System
6 in 2003 and initially served as senior vice president and chief
7 legal officer; in those roles, he was involved in a number of major
8 corporate transactions by the health system, including its purchase
9 of the Brownsville Medical Center and a joint venture with Vanguard
10 Health Systems; in 2012, he became president and CEO and spent more
11 than a decade guiding the organization and overseeing both Valley
12 Baptist Medical Center-Harlingen and Valley Baptist Medical
13 Center-Brownsville; and

14 WHEREAS, Effective May 15, 2023, Mr. Vela is continuing his
15 career as the vice president and chief operating officer of the
16 Texas A&M University Higher Education Center at McAllen, and his
17 leadership and expertise is sure to serve the center well in the
18 years ahead; and

19 WHEREAS, A native of Harlingen, Mr. Vela earned his
20 undergraduate and law degrees from The University of Texas at
21 Austin, and he subsequently became a partner with his father,
22 Moises V. Vela, in the Vela and Vela law firm; in all his endeavors,
23 he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Amy; they are the proud
24 parents of four children, Brianna, Manny, Thomas, and Esteban; and

1 WHEREAS, Manny Vela has proven himself to be an effective
2 champion of quality health care in South Texas, and he may take
3 well-deserved pride in his outstanding record of achievement as he
4 takes on the challenges and opportunities of his new role; now,
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
7 hereby congratulate Manuel M. Vela on his service as president and
8 chief executive officer of Valley Baptist Health System and extend
9 to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for Mr. Vela as an expression of high regard by the Texas
12 Senate.