

By: Flores

H.R. No. 155

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, All who shared in the life of John R. Gonzales of  
2 Manor were deeply saddened by his death on June 26, 2025, at the age  
3 of 73; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Austin on January 19, 1952, to Bernardo and  
5 Leonor Gonzales, Johnny Gonzales grew up with five siblings, Mary,  
6 Eloise, Benny, Albert, and David; he graduated from A. S. Johnston  
7 High School and went on to attend St. Edward's University; later in  
8 life, he retired from the Office of the Attorney General and worked  
9 at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission; and

10 WHEREAS, A talented musician from a young age, Mr. Gonzales  
11 was a skilled vocalist and played multiple instruments, including  
12 guitar, saxophone, trumpet, and piano; excelling in such genres as  
13 rock and roll, blues, R&B, jazz, Tejano, and mariachi, he played  
14 alongside Stevie Ray Vaughan, Selena, Flaco Jimenez, Pinetop  
15 Perkins, Vicente Fernandez, and numerous other acclaimed artists;  
16 in the 1960s, his band, Johnny Gonzales and the Sensations, played  
17 at campaign fundraisers for several prominent local and national  
18 politicians, and in 1969, the group was the first band to perform at  
19 the Austin Aqua Festival Mexican American theme night; he played  
20 with Ruben Ramos the following decade, and in 1980, he was among the  
21 artists to participate in the taping of Raul Velasco's "Siempre en  
22 Domingo" at the State Capitol; he brought back his band in 1988,  
23 renamed Johnny Gonzales & New Sensations, and continued to compose  
24 original work and play gigs around the city; and

1           WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Gonzales benefited from  
2 the love and support of his wife of 36 years, Cindy; he was the proud  
3 father of two sons, John Albert and John, and throughout his life,  
4 he drew great strength from his Catholic faith; always the life of  
5 the party, he regaled everyone around him with his sense of humor  
6 and his entertaining stories; he was also an avid sports fan and  
7 cheered on the Dallas Cowboys and Texas Longhorns; and

8           WHEREAS, Although Johnny Gonzales is greatly missed, his  
9 loved ones will forever cherish their memories of his kindness, his  
10 exceptional musical ability, and his devotion to his faith and his  
11 family; now, therefore, be it

12          RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
13 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
14 John R. Gonzales and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn  
15 his passing; and, be it further

16          RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
18 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Johnny  
19 Gonzales.