

By: Lopez of Cameron

H.R. No. 56

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of San Benito lost an admired civic leader
2 with the passing of José García Gonzalez on July 23, 2024, at the
3 age of 73; and

4 WHEREAS, Joe G. Gonzalez was born on September 14, 1950, to
5 Eliseo Gonzalez and Josefina García, and he grew up with the
6 companionship of a younger sister, Margot; he went on to serve in
7 the Texas National Guard and Army Reserve for 12 years, achieving
8 the rank of sergeant and distinguishing himself as a member of the
9 Support Company, 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment; and

10 WHEREAS, For three decades, Mr. Gonzalez was employed as a
11 social worker with the Texas Department of Health and Human
12 Services; he assisted countless Texans through his service in
13 programs providing food assistance for those in need and help for
14 the elderly and people with disabilities; he retired in 2002; and

15 WHEREAS, Outside of his professional life, Mr. Gonzalez
16 contributed generously to his community; he took immense pride in
17 his 16 years as a member of the San Benito Consolidated Independent
18 School District Board of Trustees, which he served as president,
19 vice president, secretary, and committee chair; he played an
20 influential role in guiding the growth and development of the
21 district, and he was a strong advocate for teachers and staff, as
22 well as a proponent for sound fiscal management; his commitment to
23 San Benito students was further demonstrated through his founding
24 of the Jessica Beth García Memorial Scholarship Fund, which

1 provides financial aid to deserving San Benito High School track
2 athletes; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition to his involvement in San Benito public
4 schools, Mr. Gonzalez volunteered as a youth football and baseball
5 coach, as well as the head coach of the "Joe's Misfits" men's
6 softball team; passionate about music, he found time to perform as
7 the lead vocalist for the Tejano group La Distancia, with whom he
8 released several albums; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Gonzalez's greatest joy was spending time with
10 his family, which included his wife of 50 years, Maria Elena, and
11 children, José Adrian, Yesenia, Hilario, and Cecilia, as well as
12 his 18 grandchildren and his great-grandson; and

13 WHEREAS, Joe Gonzalez was a man who gave freely of his time
14 and talents in behalf of others, and those who were fortunate enough
15 to know him will forever treasure their memories of his enthusiasm
16 for life, his strength of character, and his love of family and
17 community; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of José García
20 Gonzalez and that deepest sympathy be extended to his loved ones;
21 and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
24 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joe
25 Gonzalez.