

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 106

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Detective Mark Gil on the occasion of his retirement in July of 2003 after 23 years of dedicated service to the Austin Police Department; and

WHEREAS, A native of Austin, Mark Gil graduated from Travis High School in 1977 and from the 63rd Police Academy of the Austin Police Department in January of 1981; and

WHEREAS, Detective Gil has long been dedicated to the safety of the citizens of Austin as a member of the Uniform Patrol, the Crime Prevention Unit, the Undercover Repeat Offender Program, the Hispanic Crimes Unit, and the Gang Prevention Unit; he is now retiring as a detective with the Criminal Investigation Section; and

WHEREAS, He is especially proud of his accomplishments with his Tour to Stop the Violence project, in which he is featured in *POLICE ICE*; it has been hailed as a dynamic crime prevention and safety education endeavor that strives to teach student audiences about the realities and dangers of strangers, guns, drug abuse, and street gang violence; his *POLICE ICE* presentations focus on building character through pride, integrity, appreciation of diversity, conflict resolution techniques, and good behavior; the improvisational humor and positive rap music of Tour to Stop the Violence have proven to be inspirational to thousands of young Texans and their parents and teachers; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, his prevention strategy was featured on the nationally televised series "TOP COPS," and he was honored for his outstanding efforts to reduce violence at a White House reception in 1994, when President William Jefferson Clinton presented him with an award; locally, he has been recognized as Officer of the Year and has received more than 300 individual commendations; and

WHEREAS, Detective Mark Gil has long held the high regard of his colleagues and the community; in retirement, he will devote his time and energy to bringing his Tour to Stop the Violence and *POLICE ICE* project before a wider audience to better serve the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Detective Mark Gil for his exceptional service with the Austin Police Department and extend best wishes to him in all his future endeavors; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Barrientos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 22, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate