

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 60

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to congratulate Freddy Fender, a Texas music legend, who will be honored with a "Hometown of Freddy Fender" sign emblazoned on a new water tower to be constructed in San Benito; and

WHEREAS, Freddy Fender has had three successful musical careers, as an Hispanic pop star in the late 1950s, as a country pop star in the 1970s, and as a member of the Grammy-winning Texas Tornados in the 1990s; and

WHEREAS, Freddy Fender was born Baldemar Huerta in San Benito; the first music he played was Tejano, conjunto, and Tex-Mex; he later integrated rhythm and blues and Cajun funk into his own unique musical style; and

WHEREAS, Freddy's early hit records were Spanish language versions of Elvis Presley's "Don't be Cruel" and Harry Belafonte's "Jamaica Farewell"; among his biggest hits were "Wasted Days and Wasted Nights" and "Before the Next Teardrop Falls," which reached number one on Billboard's pop and country charts; and

WHEREAS, In a career that has spanned more than four decades, Freddy Fender has recorded many albums and soundtracks, and he has appeared in videos, films, and television shows; he has won awards from the Country Music Association, the Music Operators of America, and the Grammy Awards; he has also been honored by the Tejano Music Hall of Fame, the North America

Country Music Association International Hall of Fame, and numerous other entertainment and music organizations; and

WHEREAS, Freddy Fender has used his musical gifts and talents to bring the sheer delight of Tejano and country music to many throughout our great state and nation, and he is truly deserving of legislative recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby commend Freddy Fender for his many contributions to Texas music and extend to him congratulations on the singular honor bestowed on him by his native San Benito; and, be it further

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

Lucio

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 3, 2004.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate