

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 107

In Memory
of
Herschel Bernard

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of San Antonio in mourning the loss of Herschel "Herky" Bernard, who died on April 28, 2004, at the age of 77; and

WHEREAS, Herky Bernard was a lawyer, a civil rights activist, and a skilled behind-the-scenes strategist for the liberal wing of the Democratic Party throughout his long career; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bernard graduated from Jefferson High School in San Antonio, and he served in the chemical warfare division of the coast artillery in World War II; he earned degrees in economics and political science from the University of Wisconsin, and he studied law at The University of Texas at Austin School of Law; admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 1951, he was a business and tax lawyer in solo practice; and

WHEREAS, Deeply committed to giving voice to the voiceless, Herky provided pro bono services to Communities Organized for Public Service, and he helped blacks seeking to integrate public facilities in San Antonio through nonviolent means; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bernard worked quietly to promote progressive causes, and he played a key role in the Bexar County Democratic Coalition, a number of whose candidates were elected to public office in Bexar County in the mid-1960s; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, he worked with people from different walks of life, cultures, and faith traditions for the betterment of the community; and

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WHEREAS, Herschel Bernard was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and he leaves behind memories that will be treasured forever by his family and many friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Herschel Bernard: his wife, Loretta; his sons, Jeremy and Michael Bernard; his sisters, Gerta Katz and Sylvia Thompson; and his two grandchildren; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Herschel Bernard.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 6, 2004, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate