

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that we pay tribute to the
2 memory of a great leader of this state, the Honorable Irma Rangel,
3 who passed away on this day, March 18, 2003, having served the Lone
4 Star State and its citizens with the utmost distinction for the past
5 26 years; and

6 WHEREAS, A 1952 graduate of Texas A&I University, she
7 initially pursued a teaching career before deciding to follow her
8 lifelong dream of becoming a lawyer, a goal that was fulfilled with
9 her graduation from St. Mary's University in 1969 with her degree in
10 jurisprudence; and

11 WHEREAS, She applied her legal expertise in a variety of
12 positions, including federal law clerk, assistant district
13 attorney for Nueces County, Robstown city attorney, and solo
14 practitioner; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1976 she turned to the political arena, and her
16 successful campaign enabled Ms. Rangel to become the first Mexican
17 American woman elected to the Texas House of Representatives;
18 during her more than quarter-century as a house member, she
19 combined an unrelenting conviction to do what she believed was
20 right with her trademark enthusiasm and charm, winning admirers and
21 supporters while also initiating important legislation; and

22 WHEREAS, Ms. Rangel was perhaps best known for her leadership
23 in the area of higher education, for she played a pivotal role in
24 working to improve minorities' access to higher education and

H.R. No. 518

1 sponsored the state's 10 percent law, guaranteeing admission into
2 state colleges and universities for those students who graduate in
3 the top 10 percent of their class; and

4 WHEREAS, A deserving recipient of numerous awards and
5 accolades, she was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in
6 1994 by Governor Ann Richards, was named Legislator of the Year in
7 1997 by the Mexican American Bar Association, and was voted Woman of
8 the Year in 1998 by the Texas Young Democrats; and

9 WHEREAS, The fifth-longest-serving member in the house,
10 Representative Rangel was also a role model and mentor to many of
11 her fellow members, and she won the respect and admiration of all
12 through the intelligence and compassion she brought to each
13 challenge she confronted; with a personality as distinctive as her
14 trademark earrings and greeting, Irma Rangel will not be forgotten
15 by those who have been privileged to work by her side, or by the
16 countless Texans who revered her as a valiant and indomitable
17 champion of social justice; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
19 Legislature hereby pay special tribute to the life of its esteemed
20 colleague, the Honorable Irma Rangel, and extend sincere sympathy
21 to the many loved ones she leaves behind; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the members of her family and that when the Texas House
24 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of State
25 Representative Irma Rangel.

Luna

Craddick	Giddings	Merritt
Allen	Goodman	Miller
Alonzo	Goolsby	Moreno of Harris
Bailey	Griggs	Moreno of El Paso
Baxter	Grusendorf	Morrison
Berman	Guillen	Mowery
Bohac	Gutierrez	Naishtat
Bonnen	Haggerty	Nixon
Branch	Hamilton	Noriega
Brown of Kaufman	Hamric	Oliveira
Brown of Brazos	Hardcastle	Olivo
Burnam	Harper-Brown	Paxton
Callegari	Hartnett	Pena
Campbell	Heflin	Phillips
Canales	Hegar	Pickett
Capelo	Hilderbran	Pitts
Casteel	Hill	Puente
Castro	Hochberg	Quintanilla
Chavez	Hodge	Raymond
Chisum	Homer	Reyna
Christian	Hope	Riddle
Coleman	Hopson	Ritter
Cook of Navarro	Howard	Rodriguez
Cook of Colorado	Hughes	Rose
Corte	Hunter	Seaman
Crabb	Hupp	Smith of Tarrant
Crownover	Isett	Smith of Harris
Davis of Harris	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Jones of Bexar	Solis
Dawson	Jones of Dallas	Solomons
Delisi	Keel	Stick
Denny	Keffer of Dallas	Swinford
Deshotel	Keffer of Eastland	Talton
Driver	King	Taylor
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Telford
Dunnam	Krusee	Thompson
Dutton	Kuempel	Truitt
Edwards	Laney	Turner
Eiland	Laubenberg	Uresti
Eissler	Lewis	Van Arsdale
Elkins	Luna	Villarreal
Ellis	Mabry	West
Farabee	Madden	Wilson
Farrar	Marchant	Wise
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Wohlgemuth
Flynn	McCall	Wolens
Gallego	McClendon	Wong
Garza	McReynolds	Woolley
Gattis	Menendez	Zedler
Geren	Mercer	

H.R. No. 518

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 518 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 18, 2003.

Chief Clerk of the House