

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 156

In Memory
of
Joe E. Moreno

WHEREAS, State Representative Joe E. Moreno, a greatly esteemed member of the Texas House of Representatives, was lost to his loved ones and the State of Texas far too soon when he died on May 6, 2005, and on the first anniversary of his passing, his family and friends are celebrating the life of this remarkable man; and

WHEREAS, First elected to the legislature in 1998, Representative Moreno took tremendous joy in public service and was deeply devoted to his community; a Houston native and a resident of Denver Harbor, he belonged to Resurrection Catholic Church, held membership in the Harris County Tejano Democrats and LULAC Council Number 60, served as Democratic chair and election judge for Harris County Precinct Number 62, and was an ardent basketball fan and supporter of the Houston Rockets; and

WHEREAS, Before assuming office himself, Joe Moreno honed his skills as a legislative aide to State Representative Al Luna and as chief of staff and campaign manager for State Representative Jessica Farrar; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure in the legislature, Representative Moreno worked hard to improve the quality of life for Houston citizens and distinguished himself as a tireless champion of children, the elderly, and Texas schools; one of his major achievements was the passage in the house of a bill and joint resolution that helped open the way for the Port of Houston to become certified as a coffee exchange port by the New York Board of Trade; with the subsequent approval of a constitutional amendment by Texas voters, Houston became the fourth coffee exchange port in the nation and the only such port west of the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, The deep respect felt for Representative Moreno was reflected in his selection to chair the Harris County house delegation, a group composed of the 25 legislators representing Harris County districts; during the 79th Texas Legislature, Representative Moreno served on the House Committees on Border and International Affairs and Juvenile Justice and Family Issues; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his tireless efforts in behalf of Houston citizens and his staunch support of education, the Houston Independent School District has named a new elementary school in Representative Moreno's honor; additionally, his family and friends have established the Joe E. Moreno Scholarship Fund, a fitting honor for one who believed so fervently in the power of education to open the door to opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Representative Moreno is survived by his parents, Alicia and Frank Moreno; his brother, Mario Moreno, and his wife, Margot; his sister, Sarah Blancett; his grandmother, Olivia Moreno; and his nephews, Drake, Andrew, Matthew, and Taylor; and

WHEREAS, His family and a host of friends are remembering Joe Moreno at a memorial Mass at Saint Mary's Cathedral on May 8, 2006, in the Capital City; and

WHEREAS, Joe Moreno brought honor to the Texas House of Representatives, and he counted his legislative colleagues among his good friends; together with all who treasured him, they continue to cherish the memory of his genial warmth, his unfailing integrity, and his joyous spirit, and to find renewed inspiration in his passionate devotion to public service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Joe E. Moreno and express profound appreciation for his immeasurable contributions to the Lone Star State; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the Honorable Joe E. Moreno.

Gallegos

Armbrister
Averitt
Barrientos
Brimer
Carona
Deuell
Duncan
Ellis
Eltife
Estes

Fraser
Harris
Hinojosa
Jackson
Janek
Lindsay
Lucio
Madla
Nelson
Ogden

Seliger
Shapiro
Shapleigh
Staples
Van de Putte
Wentworth
West
Whitmire
Williams
Zaffirini

Dewhurst, President of the Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 8, 2006, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate