

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 379

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Jose Maria DeLeon "Little Joe" Hernandez who has been named the recipient of the March, 2007, Adelante Con Ganas Award; and

WHEREAS, Little Joe is being honored for his many contributions to the City of El Paso and for his outstanding musical talent; and

WHEREAS, Joe is the leader and guiding force behind Little Joe y La Familia, one of the most popular Tex-Mex bands in the music industry; he has helped pioneer Tejano music, a mix of traditional *norteño* music with country, blues, and rock styles; and

WHEREAS, Joe's first musical performance was at a high school sock hop in Cameron, Texas, in 1955 with his cousin's band, which was called David Coronado and The Latinaires; in 1959, Joe's cousin, David, left the band, his brother, the late Jesse, joined the band, and Joe took it over and renamed it Little Joe and The Latinaires; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the 1960s, Joe recorded with many different independent Texas record labels; he then spent time in San Francisco and discovered *Latinismo*, a strong Latin musical genre not found in Texas at that time; the world of *Latinismo* had a profound effect on his music and values, and in 1970, he changed the name of his band to Little Joe y La Familia; and

WHEREAS, Joe has taken his music to the highest levels; he has appeared on many Grammy-nominated records, and in 1992, he received a Grammy for Best Mexican-American Performance Category for *Diez y Seis de Septiembre*; in addition to his music career, he has worked in the film industry and enjoys touring the world and facing new challenges; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend "Little Joe" Hernandez for his community leadership and his many contributions to the rich cultural legacy of Texas music and extend congratulations to him on receiving the Adelante Con Ganas Award for March, 2007; and, be it further

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

Shapleigh

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate