

By: Jones

H.R. No. 21

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of former state representative Leopoldo
2 "Leo" Alvarado, Jr., on June 5, 2009, at the age of 70, has
3 profoundly saddened the legal and legislative communities and
4 citizens throughout San Antonio and brought a great loss to his
5 family and friends; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in San Antonio on April 23, 1939, Leo Alvarado
7 was the son of Maria del Refugio Farias de Alvarado and Leopoldo
8 Alvarado, Sr.; he grew up on the West Side and graduated from
9 Jefferson High School before enlisting in the United States Air
10 Force; following his service to his country, he enrolled in
11 St. Mary's University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in
12 political science and accounting and went on to receive his law
13 degree in 1974; and

14 WHEREAS, This dedicated community activist helped organize
15 the J.F.K. Community Forum, which laid the groundwork for West San
16 Antonio agencies engaged in the war on poverty, and served as a
17 consultant to the Inner City Apostolate and as a director of the
18 Mexican American Unity Council and of Project Health and Viable
19 Economics; he was vice chair of the board of the Bexar County
20 Hospital District and worked toward the purchase and reopening of
21 Lutheran General Hospital to serve downtown residents; and

22 WHEREAS, Highly respected in his legal career, Mr. Alvarado
23 handled many complex injury and public interest cases; he played an
24 important role in landmark *Edgewood ISD* cases involving the

1 redistribution of funds from wealthy to poorer school districts,
2 which ultimately led to increased support for education in lower
3 income communities; he was a partner in Weir & Alvarado, P.C.,
4 before forming Alvarado & Alvarado, P.L.L.C., with his daughter,
5 Rosemarie Alvarado-Hawkins; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Alvarado was first elected to the Texas House of
7 Representatives in 1992 and served the people of District 116 for
8 eight years; during his tenure, he was chair of the Freshman House
9 Caucus and was a valued member of the civil practices, house
10 administration, state affairs, redistricting, insurance, and
11 judicial affairs committees; a man of principle and integrity, he
12 worked to improve the lives of all Texans, and he introduced bills
13 relating to high school education and redlining in the insurance
14 industries, among numerous others; and

15 WHEREAS, A devoted and loving father, Mr. Alvarado most
16 enjoyed spending time with his family, whom he placed first in all
17 matters; he was also fond of hunting, fishing, playing guitar,
18 cooking, painting, gardening, and travel; and

19 WHEREAS, Leo Alvarado leaves a legacy of accomplishments that
20 will continue to benefit people in this state for years to come, and
21 he will long be remembered with deep affection and admiration by all
22 who were fortunate enough to share in the richness of his life; now,
23 therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
25 Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2009, hereby pay tribute to the
26 memory of Leopoldo "Leo" Alvarado, Jr., and extend sincere sympathy
27 to the members of his family: to his brother, Carlos Alvarado; to

1 his first wife, Gloria Acosta Farias, and their son, Leopoldo
2 Alvarado Acosta III; to his second wife, Charlene Alvarado, and
3 their children, Rosemarie Alvarado-Hawkins, Christina Lisa
4 Morales, Miguel Antonio Alvarado, and Carlos Andres Alvarado; to
5 his grandchildren, Maria and Sharet Castillejos and Evangeline and
6 Chloe Hawkins; and to the other family members and friends of this
7 esteemed Texan; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Leopoldo
11 "Leo" Alvarado, Jr.