

By: Ortiz, Jr.

H.R. No. 1826

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Corpus Christi are mourning the loss of
2 longtime education professor David Berlanga, Jr., who passed away
3 on April 20, 2009, at the age of 65; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Bertha Berlanga and David Berlanga, Sr.,
5 who served as a city councilman and Nueces County Commissioner,
6 David Berlanga, Jr., was born on August 14, 1943; he graduated from
7 Ray High School and went on to earn a bachelor's degree at Texas A&I
8 University and a doctorate in education at the University of
9 Michigan; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Berlanga was a passionate advocate of education
11 and inspired countless students during his tenure at Texas A&M
12 University-Corpus Christi, where he served for nearly three
13 decades; he not only motivated students to stay the course and
14 graduate from college, but he also devoted much of his time to
15 writing grants that provided funding for textbooks, student
16 stipends, and scholarships; moreover, he encouraged students to
17 master teaching in two languages so they could reach out to children
18 and youth who were not fluent in English; and

19 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan enjoyed the love and support of
20 his wife, Mary Helen Berlanga, who has served as a member of the
21 State Board of Education for more than 25 years; sharing his concern
22 for education, she worked with him to ensure that students who began
23 school at Crossley Elementary and graduated from high school in
24 2000 would qualify for a scholarship, and to provide scholarships

1 to students who participated in the 2005 HOPE conference; and

2 WHEREAS, Highly regarded by all who were privileged to know
3 him, David Berlanga distinguished himself as a caring, dedicated,
4 and talented individual, and he leaves behind a legacy that will
5 continue to resonate for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of David Berlanga, Jr.,
8 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
9 wife, Mary Helen Berlanga; to his children, Christina Whittier and
10 her husband, Gordon, David Berlanga III, Monica Berlanga, and
11 Catherine Berlanga; to his grandchildren, Bryce and Emma Whittier;
12 to his mother, Bertha Hinojosa Berlanga; to his sisters, Mary Alice
13 Gonzales and her husband, Arnold, and Rose Avila and her husband,
14 Robert; to his brother, Jose Berlanga, and his wife, Polly; and to
15 his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
18 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. David
19 Berlanga, Jr.