

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 2003

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of San Antonio lost an accomplished
2 physician with the tragic death of Dr. Michael J. Sanchez on January
3 11, 2009, at the age of 52; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez had been the emergency center medical
5 director at University Hospital since August 2008 and had
6 previously established a notable career in medicine that included
7 service in the United States Air Force and at Southeast Baptist
8 Hospital in San Antonio; and

9 WHEREAS, A New Mexico native, Dr. Sanchez completed his
10 undergraduate studies at the University of Oklahoma and was named a
11 distinguished graduate with honors of that institution in 1984; he
12 went on to serve as a physician's assistant in the air force, and
13 his colleagues, impressed by his abilities, recommended that he
14 attain a medical degree; after earning his M.D. in 1990 from the
15 University of New Mexico School of Medicine, he completed his
16 internship and residency at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland
17 Air Force Base; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez served as research director of the Joint
19 Military Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston from 1996 to 1998 and
20 then spent three years directing the Emergency Medical Department
21 at the United States Air Force Academy; during that period, he was
22 selected to be part of the medical team aboard Air Force One and
23 accompanied President Bill Clinton to Pakistan and India; in honor
24 of his distinguished service, he received the Air Force

1 Commendation Medal in 1998; and

2 WHEREAS, After concluding his air force service in 2000, he
3 became an emergency physician for Baptist Health System in San
4 Antonio, and in 2003 was named the director of emergency medicine at
5 Southeast Baptist Hospital; he joined the staff at The University
6 of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in 2006 as an
7 assistant professor before assuming his duties as the hospital's
8 emergency center medical director two years later; in his first
9 five months in that position, Dr. Sanchez had brought about reforms
10 to enhance efficiency and customer service and reduce waiting times
11 for patients, and he was at work on plans to institute a residency
12 program in emergency medicine; and

13 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Dr. Sanchez enjoyed the
14 love and support of his wife, Apelle, and his daughters, Carla
15 Parker and Suzanne Sanchez; he took great pleasure in spending time
16 with his family and also enjoyed a number of hobbies, including
17 sailing and playing the drums; and

18 WHEREAS, Known for the exceptional enthusiasm and dedication
19 he brought to his work as well as his extensive medical knowledge
20 and managerial skill, Michael Sanchez made a positive difference in
21 many lives over the course of his career, and he will be warmly
22 remembered and greatly missed by all who had the good fortune to
23 know him; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
25 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dr. Michael J. Sanchez
26 and extend deepest condolences to his family: to his wife, Apelle
27 Sanchez; to his daughters, Carla Parker and her husband, Jim, and

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1 Suzanne Sanchez; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Michael
6 Sanchez.