

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 881

In Memory
of
Alfonso Ramirez

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Edinburg in mourning the loss of Alfonso Ramirez, who died April 22, 2009, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, Born in Edinburg, Al Ramirez graduated from Texas A&M University and earned a master's degree in education at The University of Texas at Austin; he served his country during World War II and copiloted a B-24 on bombing missions over Europe, earning the Air Medal and a Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, He had a successful career in the field of education that included posts as a teacher, a principal, and a director of instruction for the Edinburg Independent School District; he also served as director of curriculum at Region One, where he supervised a team that created teaching materials to help children who spoke only Spanish; he was known for his work in bilingual education, where he trained teachers in best practices and developed curriculum that was used across the Southwest; and

WHEREAS, In the 1960s, he was elected the first Hispanic mayor of Edinburg, and after serving with distinction, he was reelected two years later for a second term; he worked tirelessly to assure the civil rights of Hispanics and African Americans during his terms as mayor; and

WHEREAS, An exemplary gentleman, he believed in service to others and was respected in the Edinburg community for his strong principles and his many accomplishments; his wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Alfonso Ramirez; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Al Ramirez.

Hinojosa

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 12, 2009, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate