

By: Marquez

H.R. No. 2657

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 80th birthday of a longtime state representative
2 is truly a special occasion, and the Honorable Paul C. Moreno of El
3 Paso marked this significant milestone on April 28, 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in El Paso on April 28, 1931, Mr. Moreno served
5 his country in Korea for six years as a member of the United States
6 Marine Corps; he earned the Presidential Unit Citation, the Silver
7 Star, and numerous Bronze Stars, among other decorations; after
8 completing his tours of duty, he graduated from The University of
9 Texas at El Paso and The University of Texas School of Law; his
10 devotion to justice led him to cofound both the El Paso Legal
11 Assistance Organization and the Mexican-American Bar Association;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Moreno was first elected to represent part of El
14 Paso County in 1967, and he went on to become the longest-serving
15 Hispanic elected official in the country; over the course of a
16 distinguished tenure spanning more than four decades, his
17 commitment to equal opportunity for all Texans earned him a
18 reputation as "the conscience of the house"; he played a crucial
19 role in the passage of such landmark legislation as the Bilingual
20 Education Act of 1983-84, and he was a powerful advocate for
21 farmworkers, fighting to ensure them of a minimum wage and
22 unemployment compensation; moreover, he worked to raise teacher
23 salaries and retirement benefits and to provide membership in the
24 Children's Health Insurance Program for all eligible youngsters;

1 through the years, he served on almost every major house committee,
2 and his tireless efforts in behalf of public education have greatly
3 benefited innumerable residents of El Paso; he has received myriad
4 local, state, and national awards, and in 1996, El Paso ISD named a
5 new elementary school in his honor; and

6 WHEREAS, Throughout his remarkable career in public service,
7 Paul Moreno set an inspiring example of dedication, integrity, and
8 compassion, and it is indeed a pleasure to recognize our esteemed
9 former colleague as he enters his ninth decade; now, therefore, be
10 it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
12 Legislature hereby congratulate the Honorable Paul Moreno on his
13 80th birthday and extend to him warmest best wishes for continued
14 happiness; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for Representative Moreno as an expression of high regard
17 by the Texas House of Representatives.