

By: King of Zavala

H.R. No. 1241

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Ismael Sosa, Jr., is retiring as president of
2 Southwest Texas Junior College in Uvalde on July 31, 2013, after
3 leading the institution for nearly a decade and a half and serving
4 as a faculty member and administrator at the school throughout his
5 impressive 45-year career; and

6 WHEREAS, A native of Cotulla, Ismael Sosa attended Sul Ross
7 State University in Alpine, where he earned a bachelor's degree in
8 1967 and a master's degree the following year; he started his
9 notable tenure at SWTJC in 1968 as an English and Spanish
10 instructor, and over the years, he assumed greater responsibilities
11 as he was promoted to director of community services, assistant
12 dean of students, dean of student services, and then dean of
13 admissions and student services; he was named president of the
14 college in 1999; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Sosa has overseen a number of achievements for
16 Southwest Texas Junior College, including significant growth in
17 enrollment and expanded facilities and course offerings in Uvalde,
18 Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Crystal City, Pearsall, and Hondo; the college
19 was also placed in the top 10 percent of community colleges in the
20 nation by the Aspen Institute in 2011; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Sosa has served as chair of the Rural Community
22 College Alliance, a national coalition of 160 schools; he is a
23 member of the National Council on Student Development and the Texas
24 Community College Teachers Association; and

1 WHEREAS, Active in the greater community, he served on the
2 Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District Board for nine
3 years, including four years as its president, and as vice president
4 of the board of Education Service Center Region 20; he has been a
5 member of the board of the United Way of Uvalde, the Community
6 Council of Southwest Texas, the El Progreso Library, and the Dale
7 Evans Sheltered Day Care Center; he was named Uvaldean of the Year
8 by the Uvalde Chamber of Commerce in 2011; and

9 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Dr. Sosa draws inspiration
10 and support from his wife, Eunice, whom he met while studying at Sul
11 Ross; he is the proud father of three children, Dr. Virginia Sosa
12 Cox, Dr. Ismael Sosa III, and Joshua Sosa, and he has four beloved
13 grandchildren, Ryan Kenton Cox, Landon Cox, Jillian Alexis Sosa,
14 and Sophia Elisa Sosa; and

15 WHEREAS, Southwest Texas Junior College has been greatly
16 enriched by the dedication and vision that Dr. Ismael Sosa has
17 brought to the institution, and his contributions to his community
18 and the Lone Star State merit special recognition; now, therefore,
19 be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
21 Legislature hereby honor Dr. Ismael Sosa, Jr., on the occasion of
22 his retirement as president of Southwest Texas Junior College and
23 extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be
24 it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Dr. Sosa as an expression of high regard by the Texas
27 House of Representatives.