

By: Moody

H.R. No. 2113

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Paul J. Strelzin passed away on April 27, 2013, at
2 the age of 75, leaving the city of El Paso to mourn a local icon who
3 distinguished himself in a range of endeavors; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Strelzin served
5 his country as a member of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment of the
6 U.S. Army; after moving to El Paso in 1967, he began working as a
7 teacher and coach in the El Paso Independent School District, and he
8 went on to serve as the principal of H. E. Charles Middle School,
9 Lincoln Middle School, and Bowie High School; in addition to his
10 commitment to preparing students for the future, he was a vocal
11 supporter of Hispanic civil and educational rights; during his
12 tenure at Bowie, he spoke out against injustices he saw that he felt
13 routinely targeted Hispanic students; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Strelzin was an avid sports enthusiast who was
15 hired as the public address announcer for The University of Texas at
16 El Paso track team not long after his arrival in the city; in 1969,
17 he became the voice of the Miner football and basketball teams as
18 well, and over the course of nearly two decades, he became a beloved
19 figure among UTEP fans; he was famous for his ability to electrify
20 crowds with his boisterous cheers and jokes, particularly his
21 trademark shout of "MMMMMMinerball!" at the basketball games; known
22 by his nicknames "The Strelz" and "The Mouth," he later became the
23 announcer for the city's professional baseball, hockey, and soccer
24 teams; in recognition of his central role in local sports, he was

1 inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Strelzin furthered his stature as a media
3 personality through his work at several El Paso radio stations,
4 including KROD, where he offered pointed commentary on current
5 issues on his *Back Talk* program from 1999 to 2009; and

6 WHEREAS, Away from the microphone, he was a loving husband,
7 father, grandfather, and friend; he shared a rewarding marriage of
8 44 years with his wife, Darlyne, and he took great pride in his
9 children and grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, An integral part of the El Paso community for more
11 than four decades, Paul Strelzin enriched countless lives through
12 his work as an educator, sports announcer, and radio host, and his
13 contributions will be fondly remembered by area residents for many
14 years to come; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
16 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Paul J. Strelzin and
17 extend deepest condolences to the members of his family: to his
18 wife, Darlyne Strelzin; to his daughters, Sandra Strelzin Lewis and
19 her husband, Tommy, Sara McCleskey and her husband, Chad, and Laura
20 Strelzin; to his grandchildren, Ryan Lewis, Natalie Lewis, Grant
21 McCleskey, and Kinley McCleskey; to his sisters, Lynn Strelzin
22 Pollock, Janice Vanderputten, and Adrienne Hermann; to his brother,
23 Raymond Erlichman; to his children from his previous marriage,
24 Jeffery Strelzin and his wife, Andrea, and Jennifer Strelzin Frost
25 and her husband, Bill, and their children, Spencer and Paige Frost;
26 and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
2 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Paul
3 Strelzin.