

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 58

In Memory
of
Ramón C. Samilpa, Sr.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Austin in mourning Ramón C. Samilpa, Sr., who died January 5, 2013, at the age of 93; and

WHEREAS, Born September 3, 1919, to an immigrant couple from Guanajuato, Mexico, Mr. Samilpa was the first and only of their six children to be born in the United States; he was exceedingly proud of both his American and Mexican heritages; and

WHEREAS, As a young man, he joined the United States Army and fought in World War II, serving with distinction in the Aleutian Islands, the Pacific Theater, and the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, After the war, Mr. Samilpa continued to show leadership off the battlefield; as the president of Local 456 of the Upholsterers International Union, he helped to engineer the 1968 strike known as the Austin Chicano Huelga, which sparked the Chicano movement in Austin in the 1970s and gained the support of national labor leader César Chávez; and

WHEREAS, This exemplary war veteran and activist was also a man of faith; he served as an usher at San Jose Catholic Church and was a member of the Catholic War Veterans Post and a supporter of Saint Vincent de Paul; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Samilpa was a tireless advocate who appeared in public service announcements promoting higher education and who worked to secure a historical marker for Cementerio Mexicano de Maria De La Luz, one of Austin's oldest Hispanic cemeteries; and

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WHEREAS, Ramón C. Samilpa, Sr., was a community leader who inspired change during a pivotal period in Austin's history; he was a champion of the underserved, the overlooked, and the rarely heard; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Ramón C. Samilpa, Sr.; and, be it further

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

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on January 28, 2013, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate