

By: Bernal

H.R. No. 19

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The residents of San Antonio bade farewell to an
2 esteemed newspaper publisher with the passing of Florentino Duran
3 on June 25, 2017, at the age of 82; and

4 WHEREAS, Tino Duran was born on October 24, 1934, and was
5 introduced to journalism while serving as the editor of the
6 newspaper at Sidney Lanier High School; after four years in the
7 U.S. Air Force, he enrolled at San Antonio College, where he worked
8 on the school paper, the *Ranger*; he went on to earn a bachelor's
9 degree in political science and a master's degree in public
10 administration from St. Mary's University; and

11 WHEREAS, Early in his career, Mr. Duran worked for the Bexar
12 County Juvenile Probation Department and then was appointed as an
13 executive assistant in the administration of President Lyndon
14 Johnson; he also held high-ranking posts with San Antonio Mayor
15 John Gatti and the Housing Authority of Bexar County before
16 focusing his talents on newspaper publishing; he became the general
17 manager of the newspaper *El Sol de Tejas* in Dallas in the mid-1980s
18 and then took on the role of president and CEO of *El Informador*
19 *Hispaño* in Fort Worth; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1989, Mr. Duran and his wife, Amelia, purchased
21 *La Prensa*, a bilingual newspaper which had been serving San Antonio
22 since 1913; under his leadership, the paper became a cornerstone of
23 the Hispanic community, offering vital information and an inspiring
24 message to area residents, and it also trained many aspiring young

1 journalists; the couple also started the La Prensa Foundation,
2 which has distributed more than \$2 million in college scholarships
3 since 1995; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Duran's numerous honors include the Henry
5 Guerra Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Journalism from
6 the San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists, the Henry B.
7 Gonzalez Public Service and Integrity Award, and the North San
8 Antonio Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award; in 2014, he
9 was inducted into the Texas Newspaper Hall of Fame; and

10 WHEREAS, Tino Duran made a positive difference in the San
11 Antonio community through his dedicated efforts to showcase
12 uplifting stories about the city's Latino residents, and his
13 influence will continue to be felt for many years to come; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
16 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory
17 of Florentino Duran and extend sincere condolences to the members
18 of his family: to his wife of 62 years, Amelia Duran; to his
19 children, Tino Duran Jr. and his wife, Susan, David Duran and his
20 wife, Norma, Steve Duran and his wife, Virginia, Margie Freeman and
21 her husband, Kenneth, and Nina Duran; to his 13 grandchildren and 18
22 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and many friends;
23 and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Florentino
27 Duran.