

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 111

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Steve Ahlenius for his 17 years of leadership at the McAllen Chamber of Commerce and for his 25 years of service with chambers of commerce in the Rio Grande Valley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ahlenius is a certified economic developer and holds a master's degree in public administration from Texas Tech University; he is well known for his distinguished service on behalf of the residents of the Rio Grande Valley and for his leadership with the McAllen Chamber of Commerce as its president and chief executive officer since 1998; and

WHEREAS, Under his guidance, the McAllen Chamber of Commerce has experienced a 74 percent growth in membership and has earned national recognition for its innovative programs; in 2001, the chamber was selected as the National Chamber of the Year by the National Association of Membership Development, and in 2008, it became the first chamber in the Rio Grande Valley to be accredited by the United States Chamber of Commerce; in 2014, the McAllen chamber became one of only eight chambers in Texas to earn a Five-Star Accreditation rating; and

WHEREAS, In addition to leading the chamber through an era of great success, Mr. Ahlenius has remained active in numerous local and statewide organizations; he has been honored by the Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives with both a Distinguished Service Award and a Marvin Hurley Award, the highest honor that a chamber executive can receive; and

WHEREAS, Steve Ahlenius has played a major role in turning the McAllen Chamber of Commerce into the model institution it is

today; he is highly respected in his profession, and he is indeed deserving of recognition for his many contributions to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Steve Ahlenius for his 25 years of service to chambers of commerce in the Rio Grande Valley and for his positive impact on the City of McAllen; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Lucio

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 8, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate