

By: Uresti

H.C.R. No. 80

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The city of San Antonio and the State of Texas lost
2 an admired public servant and political activist with the passing
3 of Choco Gonzalez Meza on October 9, 2016, at the age of 64; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Alfonso and Josefa Gonzalez, the
5 former Choco Gonzalez was born in 1952 in Zaragoza, Coahuila,
6 Mexico, and grew up in Eagle Pass; she settled in her adopted
7 hometown of San Antonio in 1971, when she enrolled at St. Mary's
8 University; and

9 WHEREAS, It was while in college that Ms. Meza first became
10 involved in public policy issues; as a research assistant, she
11 helped draft the 10-1 single member district plan for council
12 representation that was adopted by the city in 1977, and the same
13 year, she was recruited as research director for the Southwest
14 Voter Registration Education Project; in 1981, she became the only
15 Hispanic YWCA executive director in the country, and she went on to
16 serve as executive director of the Rockefeller Foundation Project's
17 Partnership for Hope beginning in 1988; four years later, she
18 relocated to the nation's capital and put her skills to work in the
19 federal government, serving as deputy assistant secretary for
20 intergovernmental relations and White House liaison for the
21 Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

22 WHEREAS, After returning to Texas in 1996, Ms. Meza became
23 senior vice president of the San Antonio Housing Authority, and she
24 later held the office of president for the nonprofit organization

1 American Sunrise, which provides support for at-risk youth and
2 families in San Antonio; she found success in her personal business
3 ventures as well, working as a real estate agent and operating her
4 own company, CGM Consultants; and

5 WHEREAS, An influential leader in the Democratic Party,
6 Ms. Meza championed voting rights and equal representation causes,
7 and she managed campaigns at the local, state, and national levels;
8 she was chair of the Bexar County Democratic Party, a member of the
9 State Democratic Executive Committee and the Democratic National
10 Committee, and the lead organizer for Hillary Clinton's
11 presidential campaign headquarters in San Antonio; and

12 WHEREAS, Ms. Meza also cherished her roles as a wife and
13 mother; she and her husband, Daniel Meza, shared a rewarding
14 marriage that spanned 44 years, and she took great pride in her
15 children, Danny Meza and Ivalis Gonzalez, and in her granddaughter,
16 Emma Maria; and

17 WHEREAS, Choco Gonzalez Meza devoted her life to addressing
18 the vital issues facing our communities, and the positive changes
19 she helped bring about will continue to resonate for many years to
20 come; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby pay tribute to the memory of Choco Gonzalez Meza and extend
23 sincere condolences to all who mourn her passing; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of
27 Choco Gonzalez Meza.