

By: Hinojosa

H.R. No. 2546

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Elliott Naishtat of Austin
2 represented Texas House District 49 with tremendous dedication for
3 more than a quarter century before his retirement in January 2017;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, First elected in 1990, Representative Naishtat
6 served during 13 legislative sessions and placed a special emphasis
7 on assisting the vulnerable, especially the elderly, children,
8 minorities, people with disabilities, and victims of domestic
9 violence; he passed hundreds of bills, among them the Nursing Home
10 Regulatory Reform Act, which created a bill of rights for nursing
11 home residents and strengthened the state's response to abuse and
12 neglect, and the Medicaid Simplification Act, which helped tens of
13 thousands of additional children receive health care; other
14 significant legislation he passed during his years at the State
15 Capitol include the Braille Literacy Act, the Landlord-Tenant
16 Security Devices Act, the Indoor Air Quality Act, the Newborn
17 Hearing Screening Act, the Child Protective Services Act, and the
18 Seniors' Property Tax Relief Act; and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Naishtat cosponsored the Texas
20 Anti-Stalking Act and Hate Crimes Act, as well as bills that
21 increased protections for patients in psychiatric, substance
22 abuse, and rehabilitation facilities; he served in such leadership
23 roles as chair of the Committee on Aging and the Human Services and
24 Long-Term Care Legislative Oversight Committees and as vice chair

1 of the Public Health Committee; moreover, he was a founding member
2 of the board of the House Progressive Caucus; and

3 WHEREAS, The recipient of myriad accolades, Representative
4 Naishtat was named Public Elected Official of the Year for 1999 by
5 the National Association of Social Workers, and in 2002, he was
6 accorded the National Consumer Health Advocate Award by Families
7 USA; in addition, he was recognized by the AARP, the American
8 Foundation for the Blind, the American Cancer Society, Common
9 Cause, the Texas Council on Family Violence, and the Texas Public
10 Health Association, among numerous other organizations; and

11 WHEREAS, Born in New York City, Representative Naishtat
12 graduated from Queens College; he was dispatched to Eagle Pass as a
13 VISTA volunteer in President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty and
14 went on to earn both a master's degree in social work and a law
15 degree from The University of Texas; subsequently, he served as
16 staff counsel for Senator Gonzalo Barrientos before entering
17 private law practice; he also served as chair of the Austin
18 Community Development Commission and directed the UT School of
19 Social Work's Legislative Training Program; and

20 WHEREAS, Elliott Naishtat made a lasting, positive
21 difference in countless lives through his unyielding commitment to
22 protecting the health and well-being of his fellow Texans, and his
23 outstanding contributions will continue to resonate in the years to
24 come; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
26 Legislature hereby commend the Honorable Elliott Naishtat for his
27 exemplary service as a member of the Texas Legislature and extend to

1 him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for Representative Naishtat as an expression of high
4 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.