

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 330

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to honor Joe J. Bernal, a beloved former state legislator, on the grand occasion of his 90th birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, Joe Bernal was born on March 1, 1927, in San Antonio; he earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from Trinity University, a master of education degree from Our Lady of the Lake College, and a doctoral degree in cultural foundations in education from The University of Texas at Austin; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Bernal has dedicated his life to helping his fellow citizens and to empowering the vulnerable; he served his country as a member of the United States Army and served his community as an educator and a social worker, and in 1964, he was elected a member of the Texas House of Representatives; after one term as a representative, he was elected senator for District 26; and

**WHEREAS**, Throughout his legislative career, Dr. Bernal advocated for the interests of the elderly, minorities, and other disadvantaged citizens; his many legislative accomplishments include establishing The University of Texas at San Antonio, creating free statewide kindergarten for certain five-year-olds, and authorizing the first minimum wage law in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Bernal was elected to the State Board of Education in 1996; during his 10 years on the board, he was a member of all board committees, and he served as chairman of the Committee on Instruction; a middle school in San Antonio that opened in 2014 was named in his honor; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Bernal is highly respected for his many outstanding accomplishments, and he has been recognized on numerous occasions for his tireless work as an advocate on behalf of citizens and equal educational opportunities; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby commend Joe J. Bernal for his many contributions to the Lone Star State and extend to him best wishes on his 90th birthday; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as a memento of this special day.

Menéndez

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2017.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate