

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 535

In Memory
of
Eligio de la Garza

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Eligio "Kika" de la Garza, who died March 13, 2017, at the age of 89; and

WHEREAS, Kika de la Garza served the people of the Rio Grande Valley and the United States with distinction over the course of a long and distinguished career in public service, during which he continually stood up for the rights of veterans and minorities throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, Born September 22, 1927, he grew up in Mission and served in the military during World War II and the Korean War before earning a law degree from Saint Mary's University; he began his career in public service at the age of 24 when he was elected to the first of six consecutive terms in the Texas House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, He was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1965, and he served for 32 years; over the course of his accomplished legislative career, he focused on addressing such important issues as free trade agreements, water quality, and English language instruction for preschool children; he was a founding member and chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus; and

WHEREAS, He and his beloved wife, Lucille, enjoyed 63 years of marriage together, and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild were a source of much pride and joy to him; and

WHEREAS, A man of courage, strength, and determination, he gave unselfishly to others, and his wise counsel and commitment to public service will not be forgotten by his family and countless friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Eligio "Kika" de la Garza; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Kika de la Garza.

Hinojosa

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 29, 2017, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate