

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 607

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize *La Conversacion Valiosa* in Hidalgo County and to join all associated with the organization in designating April 16 through 22, 2017, as National Health Care Decision Week; and

WHEREAS, Many advances have been made regarding quality end-of-life care in the United States, yet there continues to be a lack of resources and services available for chronically and terminally ill minority patients; although rates of serious illness are higher among racial minorities, quality advanced-care planning services for Hispanic Americans are extremely limited; and

WHEREAS, A 2014 publication by the Institute of Medicine called for significant reforms in end-of-life care and emphasized the need for more opportunities for individuals to participate in health care decisions relating to the last years of their life; and

WHEREAS, The Mexican American population in Texas is the second largest in the nation, and more than 90 percent of Hidalgo County residents are Hispanic; accessibility to culturally sensitive, high-quality care is vital when making end-of-life decisions, and *La Conversacion Valiosa* is helping Hidalgo County residents make informed personal care choices and determine advance directives that are consistent with their individual values and preferences; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby commend all associated with *La Conversacion Valiosa* for their work educating and empowering the residents of Hidalgo County and extend to them best wishes for a memorable National Health Care Decision Week; and, be it further

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

Hinojosa

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 10, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate