

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 663

WHEREAS, The conclusion of Ismael G. Casanova's tenure as a deacon of the Archdiocese of San Antonio in 2016 provides a fitting opportunity to recognize the contributions of this esteemed Texan; and

WHEREAS, A San Antonio native, Mr. Casanova grew up in the Catholic faith; he graduated from Harlandale High School in 1960 and worked at the local air force base for three years before joining the United States Army; in 1967, after serving a tour of duty in Vietnam, he received his honorable discharge; the following year, he married Sylvia Ann Velazquez, and the couple raised two sons, Ismael and Leonel, and shared 30 joyous years until her death in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Casanova earned a bachelor's degree from Texas State University in 1977 and went on to enjoy a career with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, first at its regional office in Dallas and then at the office in San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, Following his return to San Antonio, Mr. Casanova became actively involved in leading the youth ministry program at San Fernando Cathedral, and in 1993, he felt a calling to serve the church in a more formal capacity; that year, he entered the diaconate program, and he was ordained as a deacon on August 29, 1997; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Deacon Casanova served at San Fernando Cathedral as well as at Saint Mary Magdalen Church; his duties included visiting the sick, teaching, counseling, and

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volunteering his time on a number of parish committees and councils; he retired from the diaconate on June 28, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Ismael Casanova has set an inspiring example of faith in action, and countless residents of the San Antonio community have benefited from his wisdom and able leadership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby recognize Deacon Ismael G. Casanova for his service to the Archdiocese of San Antonio and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Deacon Casanova as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Menéndez

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 24, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate