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By:  Martinez Fischer H.R. No. 1277

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The University of Texas at San Antonio is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2019; and

WHEREAS, In 1969, state senator Joe J. Bernal sponsored the bill establishing UTSA as the Alamo City's first public university, and he played a key role in the final negotiations to pass the legislation; and

WHEREAS, The Class of 1973, the first to graduate from UTSA, numbered 670 students; today, enrollment exceeds 32,000, and the institution has some 132,000 alumni, who contribute to communities around the world; and

WHEREAS, UTSA brings national recognition to Texas through its programs of distinction in cybersecurity, health, energy, sustainability, and human and social development; it has been ranked as the nation's number one Hispanic-serving institution and third most military-friendly institution, as well as one of the top 100 young universities in the world; and

WHEREAS, Designated by the Texas Legislature as an emerging research university, UTSA is on its way to earning both National Research University Fund eligibility and the highest research designation from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; and

WHEREAS, UTSA is creating a collaborative and impactful government-university-industry ecosystem in San Antonio through its new National Security Collaboration Center, the state's first program of its kind; it is also launching the state's first School of Data Science; and

WHEREAS, Fifty percent of UTSA students are the first in their families to attend college, and as an inclusive institution, it provides opportunities for individuals from all backgrounds to thrive; and

WHEREAS, The university is a catalyst for change in San Antonio, and while driving the city's knowledge economy, it acts as a prosperity engine for the entire state; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding, UTSA has transformed the lives of innumerable Texans, providing them with the education required to achieve their dreams and preparing them to effect positive change in the world around them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of The University of Texas at San Antonio and extend to all those associated with this rising institution sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the university as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.