

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 58

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas A&M community is mourning the loss of
2 admired educator Dr. Joe David Townsend of South Padre Island, who
3 passed away on July 1, 2021, at the age of 75; and

4 WHEREAS, Born to Charles Eli Townsend and Pauline Townsend on
5 July 24, 1945, Joe Townsend grew up with a brother, Donald, and
6 graduated from McAllen High School; while earning his bachelor's
7 degree in agricultural education at Texas A&M University, he served
8 as president of the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences student
9 council, and he was a member of the Corps of Cadets, the
10 Agricultural Leadership Society, FFA, and the 4-H Club; he began
11 his career as a high school teacher while completing a master's
12 degree and doctoral degree in agricultural education at Iowa State
13 University, and he taught at both Iowa State and Illinois State; and

14 WHEREAS, "Dr. Joe" returned to Texas A&M in 1984 and became
15 associate dean for students in the College of Agriculture and Life
16 Sciences and associate vice president for students; over the course
17 of a quarter century, he taught at least 1,000 students per
18 semester; he received numerous accolades, including the University
19 Distinguished Teaching Award, the John J. Koldus III Award from the
20 Division of Student Affairs, and the Outstanding Alumni Award from
21 the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; in addition, he was
22 recognized by Minorities in Agriculture and the Natural Resources
23 and Related Sciences Council, and he was honored four times by the
24 Association of Former Students; and

1 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family, Dr. Townsend shared a
2 fulfilling marriage of 41 years with his wife, Christine Davis
3 Townsend; he took great pride in his children, Kelly and Michael,
4 and his four grandchildren; in 2009, Dr. Christine Townsend
5 established the Dr. Joe D. Townsend Agricultural Leadership,
6 Education, and Communications Leadership Fellows Program at Texas
7 A&M in honor of her husband; the couple was inducted into the Texas
8 Letterman's Association Hall of Honor together; and

9 WHEREAS, Joe David Townsend enriched the lives of countless
10 students over the course of his long career in higher education, and
11 his contributions to Texas A&M University will continue to resonate
12 in the years to come; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
14 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
15 Dr. Joe David Townsend and extend sincere condolences to all who
16 mourn his passing; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joe David
20 Townsend.