87S30300 BHH-D

By:  Guerra H.C.R. No. 10

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The life of a distinguished public servant drew to a close with the death of former state representative Roberto Gutierrez of McAllen on December 28, 2019, at the age of 83; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Gutierrez was born on June 11, 1936; answering his nation's call to duty, he served in the 49th Armored Division of the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of sergeant, and he went on to serve another 10 years in the Texas National Guard; in civilian life, he earned a master's degree in education and enjoyed a career as a secondary school teacher and counselor and as a businessman; and

WHEREAS, First elected to the State Legislature from District 41 in 1990, Representative Gutierrez served for 14 years, and he devoted his tenure in office to expanding education in the Rio Grande Valley, promoting public safety, and improving access to health services; he was a member of the Appropriations, Public Safety, and Financial Institutions Committees, among others, and his many achievements included authoring the bill that created South Texas Community College, helping to increase funding for The University of Texas-Pan American, promoting an early diabetes detection program for children, and playing a lead role in creating the UT Regional Academic Health Center, which served as the foundation for the UTRGV School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Representative Gutierrez shared a loving union with his wife, Cecilia Carmen Gutierrez, that spanned 56 years until her death in 2017, and he was the proud father of three children, Roberto, Gilda, and Sara; with the passing years, he had the pleasure of welcoming into his family seven grandchildren, Roberto Daniel, A. Cecilia, Iris Isabelle, Joel Roberto, Sarita Cecilia, Gabriela Marie, and Andrea Renee; and

WHEREAS, Living up to his motto "*dale gas*," which is Spanish for "go forward," Roberto Gutierrez led a rich and purposeful life dedicated to the service of others, and he leaves behind a legacy that will continue to inspire all those who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable Roberto Gutierrez and extend heartfelt sympathy to his family and many friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of Roberto Gutierrez.