H.C.R. No. 68

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Honorable Ramon Garcia has contributed greatly to his fellow citizens through his long and dedicated service as Hidalgo County judge; and

WHEREAS, A native of McAllen, Mr. Garcia knew from an early age that he wanted to pursue a career in law; after earning his bachelor's degree from Pan American University in 1970, he graduated with honors from the Bates College of Law at the University of Houston in 1972, passing the State Bar exam that same year; and

WHEREAS, Early in his 40-year career, Mr. Garcia earned a reputation as one of the best criminal defense attorneys in South Texas, and he went on to enjoy equal success as a personal injury attorney; over the years, he has tried more than 200 cases before juries and recovered hundreds of millions of dollars for plaintiffs across Texas; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, Mr. Garcia was elected as Hidalgo County judge, and he donated his entire salary from his first term to charity; he held the position for a total of three terms until his retirement in December 2018, making him the longest-serving county judge in the county's history; over the course of his tenure in office, he worked to increase the county's reserve funds from $710,000 to $38 million, and he also led the effort to build a new Hidalgo County courthouse; and

WHEREAS, Judge Garcia is the recipient of numerous honors, including the Valley Hispanic Award from The University of Texas-Pan American Library, the Golden Eagle Award from the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Exemplary Award from *El Americano News*, the Governor's Humanitarian Achievement Award from Rio Grande Valley Humanities, and the Pillars of Success Award from The University of Texas-Pan American; in 2019, the law library of the new Hidalgo County Courthouse was dedicated in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Through his vision, leadership, and expertise, Ramon Garcia has contributed immeasurably to his community, and in so doing, he has earned the lasting respect and appreciation of his fellow citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby commend Ramon Garcia for his service as Hidalgo County judge and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 68 was adopted by the House on March 25, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 68 was adopted by the Senate on March 30, 2021, by a viva-voce vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                 Date

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               Governor