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By:  Raymond H.R. No. 112

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Ricardo "Cuate" Santos retired as chief photographer of the *Laredo Morning Times* on December 31, 2020, drawing to a close an exceptional career with the newspaper that spanned nearly four decades; and

WHEREAS, Greatly admired for his artistry and skill, Cuate Santos has captured the essence of the border town in which he was born and raised, documenting myriad civic, sports, and political events; over the years, his assignments have included photographing high-profile athletes and political figures, including Mexican and U.S. presidents, and such events as the Jalapeño Festival; a self-taught photographer who never took a formal class, he mastered lighting and composition early on, and his images have appeared in a number of prestigious national and international publications; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Santos graduated from Martin High School and went on to attend Laredo Junior College, where he began his work as a photographer with the McIntosh Express; he joined the staff of the *Laredo Morning Times* in the early 1980s; he was recently recognized by the Webb County Commissioners Court for his many years of dedicated service to the region; and

WHEREAS, Retirement will afford Mr. Santos more time to spend with his family, which includes his wife, Norma, his daughters, Andrea and Amanda, and his granddaughters, Olivia and Eva; he also plans to volunteer more in the community and to continue photographing Laredo; and

WHEREAS, Known for his professionalism, his low-key manner, and his good humor, Cuate Santos has chronicled the lives of his fellow residents for 39 years, and in so doing, he has created a rich and compelling visual record of life in South Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Ricardo "Cuate" Santos on his retirement as chief photographer for the *Laredo Morning Times* 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. Santos as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.