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By:  Fierro H.R. No. 486

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, A life lived with joy and purpose drew to a close with the passing of longtime public servant Barbara Edith Otero Perez of El Paso on November 20, 2020, at the age of 76; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of Johnny and Julia Otero, the former Barbara Otero was born in Roswell, New Mexico, in 1944 on her mother's birthday, April 12; she grew up with the company of four treasured siblings, Marty, Rudy, Freda, and Mario, and a very large extended family of aunts, uncles, and cousins; following the birth of her son, Gregory, she settled in El Paso, and she worked as an insurance adjuster before becoming marketing director for Dickshire Distributing Company; she married the love of her life, Paul Perez, in 1984, and with their fulfilling relationship she gained two daughters, Amy and Annie, whom she raised as her own; eventually, she became the proud grandmother of Ashlie, Layton, Mattie, and Grayson; nicknamed "Dido" by her loved ones, she knew how to bring out the best in each of them and adored bragging about their achievements; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Perez cofounded the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and served as vice chair; in 1993, she won the first of three terms on the city council; she supported small and minority-owned businesses and fought with both grace and tenacity for the issues she cared about, including infrastructure development, fair wages, women's equality, and educating youth about drugs and gang violence; subsequently, she benefited her fellow residents as a trustee of the Socorro Independent School District Board and as an El Paso County commissioner; for three years, she hosted a lively radio call-in show about politics, "Talk of the Town"; she was then elected as justice of the peace, and she so enjoyed officiating at weddings that she continued to perform that service after her term concluded; among numerous accolades, she received the prestigious El Paso Conquistador Award, and she was inducted into the Fort Bliss Women's Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Although Barbara Perez is sadly missed, she left behind a wealth of cherished memories, and her fierce dedication to her family and her community will remain a source of inspiration to all who knew her; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Barbara Edith Otero Perez and extend sincere condolences to her loved ones; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Barbara Edith Otero Perez.