87R16041 JGH-D

By:  Fierro H.R. No. 487

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Family and friends will forever treasure their memories of Charles Ponzio Jr. of Austin, who died on July 16, 2020, at the age of 67; and

WHEREAS, A native of El Paso, Charlie Ponzio was born on March 9, 1953, to Margarita Perez and Carlos Ponzio, and he grew up in Silver City, New Mexico, with six siblings; the family eventually returned to El Paso, and after graduating from Ysleta High School, Mr. Ponzio embarked on a successful career in commercial real estate; he held a number of national commercial real estate management and brokerage certifications, and he was president of the El Paso chapter of CCIM (Certified Commercial Investment Member) in both 1987 and 1993; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ponzio expended much of his time and energy in behalf of his community; he served as president of the Downtown Sertoma Club, helped establish the White Collar Industry Task Force, and became founding president of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 1990; he also served on the El Paso Plan Commission under three different mayors, chaired the Hispanic Leadership Institute and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation, and ran for Congress in 1992; after moving to Austin in 1997, he worked to support the residents of the Dove Springs neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to his children and his grandchildren, Mr. Ponzio delighted in sharing his life and interests with them; he took great pleasure in fine dining, salsa dancing, critiquing movies, storytelling, and experiencing new music; and

WHEREAS, Blessed with a lively curiosity and keen intellect, Charlie Ponzio never stopped learning and evolving, and he leaves behind a legacy of hard work, service to others, and *joie de vivre* that will continue to inspire all who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Charles Ponzio Jr. and extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family: to his children, Sunday, Eric, Carlo, Maria, Audrey, and Joseph; to his grandchildren, Aidan, Ezra, Mia, Dante, and Joshua; to his ex-wife, Deborah; to his siblings, Joel, Sam, Bruce, Carla, Laura, and Marissa; and to his other relatives and 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 adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Charles Ponzio Jr.