H.R. No. 718

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Dr. Art Cavazos is retiring as superintendent of the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District on June 30, 2021, drawing to a close an exceptional career in education that has spanned well over three decades; and

WHEREAS, Taking on the role of superintendent of Harlingen CISD in 2013, Dr. Cavazos brought a wealth of knowledge to his new position, having joined the district in 2001 as assistant superintendent for secondary education and then earning promotion to interim superintendent and deputy superintendent for transformation and school support; among his many achievements, he has overseen the adoption of the Strategic Plan, which develops communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking skills while emphasizing early childhood literacy; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cavazos also directed the implementation of a robotics initiative and a career and technical education redesign that have created authentic learning experiences in science, technology, engineering, and math, as well as in health services, media, arts communications, nursing, and teaching; moreover, he has guided the opening of new campuses and dual language academies and the digitalization of classrooms, and his sound fiscal management has enabled the district to address facility needs without incurring debt as a result of the Tax Ratification Election; and

WHEREAS, A nationally recognized leader, Dr. Cavazos was selected by the U.S. Department of Education in 2014 to participate in the inaugural National ConnectED Superintendents Summit at the White House; two years later, he was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to a six-year term on the State Board for Educator Certification; in addition to receiving the Distinguished School Administrator Award from the American Association of School Librarians and an excellence in leadership award from Teach For America, he has been named a Texas PTA Superintendent of the Year and a National Speech and Debate Association Gulf Coast Communicator of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cavazos began his career with Edinburg Consolidated ISD in 1987; he next worked for McAllen ISD as a math teacher, counselor, and principal, and he went on to serve as director of secondary education for Mission CISD; he holds a master of education degree from The University of Texas-Pan American and a doctorate in education from The University of Texas at Austin; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan's vision, dedication, and commitment to excellence have greatly benefited the students of Harlingen CISD, and he may indeed reflect with pride on a career well spent; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Art Cavazos on his retirement as superintendent of the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District 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 Dr. Cavazos as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Longoria

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 718 was adopted by the House on April 23, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House