**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 111**

**In Memory**

**of**

**Lewis Hill**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Lewis Hill, who died February 7, 2021, at the age of 55; and

**WHEREAS**, Lewis Hill was an exemplary citizen who was beloved by many and was highly regarded for his success as a basketball coach; and

**WHEREAS**, Coach Hill grew up in Mount Vernon, New York, where he was an all-state performer in high school; he attended San Jacinto Junior College and was an All-American point guard, and he earned All-Missouri Valley Conference honors at Wichita State University; and

**WHEREAS**, He began his coaching career at Wichita East High School in 1989, and he served as an assistant coach at several colleges before becoming head coach of the men's team at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in 2016; under his outstanding leadership, the Vaqueros became known for toughness and perseverance, and the team received its first invitation to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Tournament after the 2018-2019 season; in 2019, Coach Hill was a finalist for the Ben Jobe Award, an award presented annually to the top minority coach in Division I men's basketball; and

**WHEREAS**, Lewis was active in his community and was passionate about raising the public's awareness of diabetes; he believed greatly in giving back to his campus and his community, and he was known for buying large amounts of breakfast tacos and walking to faculty and staff offices around campus to deliver breakfast and thank his fellow employees for their hard work and dedication; when the university's athletics program started a weekly story time series in the spring of 2020, Coach Hill was the first employee to sign up, and he read *The Dinosaur Who Lived in My Back Yard* with his daughter, Elle; and

**WHEREAS**, He and his beloved wife, Renee, took great pleasure in the achievements of their children, Lewis and Elle, and his daughters Sierra, Erica, and Asya brought him much joy; and

**WHEREAS**, Lewis Hill was a devoted husband and father, and he leaves behind an extended family of players, coaches, and staff at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley: Anthony Bratton, LaQuan Butler, Uche Dibiamaka, Chris Freeman, Jamal Gaines, Isaiah Garcia, Quinton Johnson II, Malik Lawrence-Anderson, Javon Levi, Rob McClain Jr., Nick Mora, Marek Nelson, Doc Nelson, Jeff Otchere, Connor Raines, Sean Rhea, Jai Steadman, Kenya Crandell, Luke Mackay, Patrick Nee, Chris Lowe, Lucas Monroe, Jacob Galindo, Zachary Omar Ugarte, Jose Martinez, Steven Kraus, Irma Garza, Alan Hernandez, Hector Martinez, Robert Gonzalez, Emilee Ramos, Paula Perez, Britney Smith, Adrian Alvarez, April Leija, and Aimee Silva; and

**WHEREAS**, Lewis Hill was treasured by all associated with The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and by all who were privileged to share in his life, and he will long be remembered for the positive impact he had on the countless individuals whose lives he touched; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Lewis Hill; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lewis Hill.

Hinojosa, Lucio

Zaffirini

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_     President of the Senate     I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 9, 2021, by a rising vote.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_     Secretary of the Senate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_      Member, Texas Senate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_      Member, Texas Senate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_      Member, Texas Senate