

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Eluterio Blanco Jr. of The University of Texas
2 Rio Grande Valley has been selected as a 2021 Emerging Scholar by
3 the journal *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*; and

4 WHEREAS, A clinical assistant professor in the School of
5 Rehabilitation Services and Counseling, Dr. Blanco launched the
6 school's bachelor's degree program in addiction studies, an online
7 program for future clinicians across the state and beyond; he
8 serves as its coordinator; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Blanco is a licensed chemical dependency
10 counselor with special expertise in substance use and addiction in
11 the Hispanic community; he focuses his research on the attitudes of
12 Latinx health practitioners toward addiction and on measures to
13 reduce stigma and expand access to treatment; after joining UTRGV
14 in 2015, he became coprincipal investigator on a three-year federal
15 grant program through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health
16 Services Administration; the initiative trained students pursuing
17 degrees in health care professions to recognize and address
18 substance abuse in patients; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2020, Dr. Blanco was named Terry B. Hale
20 Professional of the Year by the Texas Association of Addiction
21 Professionals; he earned his bachelor's degree in psychology at
22 UT Austin as a first-generation student on scholarship and
23 completed both his master's degree in clinical psychology and his
24 doctoral degree in rehabilitation counseling at UTRGV; and

1 WHEREAS, Eluterio Blanco has distinguished himself as a
2 dynamic young leader in an academic field of vital importance to the
3 Hispanic community, and his accomplishments are a source of great
4 pride to The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; now, therefore,
5 be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
7 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Eluterio Blanco Jr. on his
8 selection as a 2021 Emerging Scholar by the journal *Diverse: Issues*
9 *in Higher Education* and extend to him sincere best wishes for
10 continued success; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Dr. Blanco as an expression of high regard by the Texas
13 House of Representatives.

Guerra

H.R. No. 188

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 188 was adopted by the House on March 18, 2021, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House