

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 214

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to  
2 a close with the passing of Sister Celia Hernandez Martel of Corpus  
3 Christi on January 18, 2021, at the age of 86; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Felipe Hernandez and Rosa Martel,  
5 Sister Celia was born in Gomez Palacio, Durango, Mexico, on May 18,  
6 1934; she entered the Missionary Sisters of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
7 in 1962 and professed her vows two years later; and

8 WHEREAS, Sister Celia served at the Corpus Christi Minor  
9 Seminary from 1964 to 1982; she loved her work cooking and baking  
10 for the priests and seminarians, and she called each "mi hijito," or  
11 "my dear son," while fretting about whether they had eaten enough;  
12 some commented that she was like a second mother to them; and

13 WHEREAS, Following her transfer to El Paso, Sister Celia  
14 served meals to the students at St. Joseph of the Valley Preschool  
15 and Daycare; she returned to Corpus Christi in 2000 as the cook for  
16 the Ark Assessment Center and Emergency Shelter for Youth; the  
17 smiles and hugs from the children brought her tremendous happiness,  
18 and when she could no longer manage the kitchen, she continued to  
19 help feed little ones as a volunteer; and

20 WHEREAS, Sister Celia inspired countless people through her  
21 faith, humility, and compassion, and the love and joy she freely  
22 shared will forever live on in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
24 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Sister Celia

1 Hernandez Martel and extend sincere condolences to the members of  
2 her family: to her brothers, Ernesto and Enrique; to her sister,  
3 Rosa Maria; to her nieces and nephews; and to all others who mourn  
4 her passing; and, be it further

5       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
6 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Sister  
8 Celia Hernandez Martel.