

By: Landgraf

H.R. No. 228

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life dedicated to the law and the service of others  
2 drew to a close with the death of Richard Covarubio Abalos of Odessa  
3 on December 12, 2020, at the age of 77; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Rankin to Angela and Lasaro Abalos on July 4,  
5 1943, Richard Abalos grew up with 14 siblings, Paul, Basilio,  
6 Eustolia, Frank, Lasaro, Rosendo, George, Jesse, Johnny, Selso,  
7 Lupe, Linda, Martha, and Victoria; he learned the value of hard work  
8 at an early age, laboring with his family in the cotton and onion  
9 fields of West Texas, and in junior high school, he started his own  
10 business filling out tax forms; his skill as a Golden Gloves boxer  
11 led him to find a job in the office of attorney Warren Burnett, who  
12 helped him enroll in The University of Texas and St. Mary's  
13 University School of Law; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Abalos served in the U.S. Army during the  
15 Vietnam War with the Judge Advocate General's Corps at Fort Rucker,  
16 Alabama, where he bunked with future vice president Al Gore;  
17 returning to civilian life, he joined Mr. Burnett's law firm as one  
18 of the first Mexican American lawyers in Odessa, and he went on to  
19 enjoy a legal career that spanned nearly half a century, starting  
20 his own law firm and winning a reputation as a skilled and  
21 determined advocate for his clients; and

22 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Mr. Abalos participated in the  
23 Democratic Party on the state and local levels, and as a proud  
24 Mexican American, he was active with the League of United Latin

1 American Citizens and Hispanic Heritage; moreover, he was a  
2 founding member of the Club Los Dorados riding club; he was the  
3 recipient of many accolades, including the Community Statesman  
4 Award from the Heritage of Odessa Foundation and the *Odessa*  
5 *American*; in his leisure time, he delighted in riding horses,  
6 sharing happy hour with his fellow attorneys, rooting for the  
7 Dallas Cowboys, collecting coins, bird-watching, and playing  
8 chess, tennis, and poker; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Abalos was a loving and supportive husband to  
10 Delma, his wife of 42 years, and he took great pride in his three  
11 children, Angel, Feliz, and Andrea, and his two grandchildren, Noah  
12 and Lyndon; he was also a loving brother and uncle, and a true and  
13 loyal friend, generously sharing his time and resources with anyone  
14 in need; and

15 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, a respected attorney, and an  
16 engaged member of his community, Richard Abalos leaves behind a  
17 record of service that his loved ones can remember with pride; now,  
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Richard Covarubio  
21 Abalos and extend heartfelt sympathy to his family and many  
22 friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Richard  
26 Abalos.