

By: Raymond

H.R. No. 686

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and  
2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends  
3 of Elmo López Sr. of Laredo, who passed away on March 15, 2021, at  
4 the age of 93; and

5           WHEREAS, Elmo López was born in Rio Grande City on October 7,  
6 1927, to Jose Maria López and Maria Piña López, and he grew up on El  
7 Rucio Ranch in Starr County with the companionship of seven  
8 siblings, Ofelia, Josefina, Maria, Alonso, Jose Maria, Humberto,  
9 and Ruben; and

10           WHEREAS, Inspired by the big bands of his youth, Mr. López  
11 started his own ensemble, Elmo López and his Orchestra, to help put  
12 himself through The University of Texas at Austin, where he earned  
13 bachelor's and master's degrees in music; he was the first band  
14 director of Lamar Junior High School, and during his decade-long  
15 tenure at Martin High School, he brought the first University  
16 Interscholastic League Sweepstakes Competition to Laredo in 1956;  
17 he went on to serve as band director of Nixon High School, and in  
18 1967, he opened the first music store in Laredo specializing in band  
19 instruments; in later years, he came out of retirement to serve as  
20 the inaugural director of bands of Texas A&M International  
21 University; and

22           WHEREAS, In addition to his career as a music educator,  
23 Mr. López devoted himself to his family's cattle ranch, often  
24 traveling to livestock auctions; a true servant leader, he was a

1 passionate advocate for education, raising scholarship money for  
2 Laredo students to attend The University of Texas; in 1987, he  
3 founded the Laredo chapter of the Texas Exes alumni association,  
4 and he held a seat on the board of the UT Dad's Association for 12  
5 years, serving for a time as president; his many honors include an  
6 honorary doctorate from TAMIU, and in 1963, the noted composer and  
7 UT music professor James Clifton Williams dedicated a work, the  
8 "Laredo Paso Doble," to Mr. López; and

9         WHEREAS, Mr. López enjoyed the love and support of his wife,  
10 Consuelo Flores López, with whom he shared a rewarding marriage  
11 that spanned 65 years; he proudly lined the walls of his ranch house  
12 with photos of his family, which grew to include 5 children, Elmo,  
13 Linda, Cristina, Jose Humberto, and the late Ana Laura López, 11  
14 grandchildren, Veronica, Amanda, Elmo Daniel, Andrew, Alexandra,  
15 Cristian, Diego, Andrea, Leopoldo Humberto, Ana Victoria, and Laura  
16 Cecilia, and 2 great-grandchildren, Viviana and Jorge; and

17         WHEREAS, Elmo López was a pillar of his community, a loving  
18 family man, and a gifted educator who brought out the best in all  
19 who knew him, and they will forever remember the positive influence  
20 he had on their lives; now, therefore, be it

21         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Elmo López Sr. and  
23 extend sincere sympathy to all who mourn his passing; and, be it  
24 further

25         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
27 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Elmo López

1 Sr.