88R9754 BK-D

By:  Muñoz, Jr. H.R. No. 94

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Glioblastoma, also known as glioblastoma multiforme, is a fast-growing and aggressive type of brain cancer that accounts for nearly half of all cancerous brain tumors; and

WHEREAS, The tumors begin in glial cells called astrocytes, which support nerve cell function; glioblastoma can develop in the brain or spinal cord and manifest with symptoms such as worsening headaches, nausea, vomiting, and seizures; and

WHEREAS, More than 13,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with glioblastoma each year; although the disease can occur at any age, it is more commonly identified in older adults, with 64 years being the median age of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, Because of the many challenges associated with treating glioblastoma, the prognosis remains poor; patients survive an average of 12 to 18 months after diagnosis, and the five-year survival rate is just seven percent; treatments, including surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy, may help to slow the progression of the disease and alleviate patients' symptoms; and

WHEREAS, On December 16, 2019, at 67 years old, Jose Angel Martinez lost his battle with glioblastoma, less than two months after being diagnosed with the disease; a native of El Palmarito, Nuevo León, Mexico, he had immigrated with his family to the United States during his youth and set his sights on living the American dream through hard work and perseverance; for most of his life, he was employed as a foreman in the fields of California's Central Valley, and he was just two weeks away from retiring when he received the devastating news that he had a brain tumor; and

WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Mr. Martinez encouraged his four children and nine grandchildren to become motivated and contributing members of society; he was proud to see his son, Jorge Martinez, be appointed to the Texas Physician Assistant Board by Governor Greg Abbott in 2015 and be invited to the White House to discuss policies impacting the lives of Latinos throughout the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Every year, more than 10,000 Americans like Jose Martinez lose their lives to glioblastoma, but through events such as Glioblastoma Awareness Day, we can help rally support for research needed to develop better treatments and one day find a cure for this deadly disease; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas Legislature hereby recognize February 15, 2023, as Glioblastoma Awareness Day in memory of Jose Angel Martinez and commend all those across the state who are working in behalf of individuals with glioblastoma.