

By: Muñoz, Jr.

H.R. No. 94

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

19 WHEREAS, On December 16, 2019, at 67 years old, Jose Angel
20 Martinez lost his battle with glioblastoma, less than two months
21 after being diagnosed with the disease; a native of El Palmarito,
22 Nuevo León, Mexico, he had immigrated with his family to the United
23 States during his youth and set his sights on living the American
24 dream through hard work and perseverance; for most of his life, he

1 was employed as a foreman in the fields of California's Central
2 Valley, and he was just two weeks away from retiring when he
3 received the devastating news that he had a brain tumor; and

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

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

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