

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 91

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Martin Henry Garza Sr. of San Antonio on August 15, 2025,
3 at the age of 84; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Efrain Garza Sr. and Emma Vasquez Garza,
5 Martin Garza was born in San Antonio on October 21, 1940; he grew up
6 on the Westside with four siblings, Efrain, Mary Alice, Emma, and
7 Christine; he began working at the family business, Garza's Service
8 Station & Garage, at an early age; as quarterback for the Fox Tech
9 High School football team, he was named to the All-District and
10 All-City teams before graduating in 1959; that same year, he was
11 recognized by the *San Antonio Express-News* for saving a young girl
12 from drowning; an alumnus of St. Mary's University, he went on to
13 earn a master's degree in social work from Our Lady of the Lake
14 University; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Garza dedicated his career to helping others; he
16 served as program director of the San Antonio Neighborhood Youth
17 Organization before being hired by the U.S. Department of Labor;
18 subsequently, he was employed at the House of Neighborly Service,
19 and in 1971, he began his tenure with MHMR's drug dependence
20 program; he advanced rapidly to executive roles, including chief of
21 narcotic addiction and rehabilitation, director of intake and
22 outpatient services, and, ultimately, director of the drug
23 dependence program; the *San Antonio Express-News* wrote about his
24 outstanding contributions in 1990; and

1 WHEREAS, Following his retirement in 1995, Mr. Garza enjoyed
2 restoring vintage cars, as well as fishing, painting his home, and
3 cheering for high school sports; above all else, he was devoted to
4 his family; he wed Evangelina "Eva" Lopez in 1966, and they raised
5 their two sons, Martin and Edward, to follow their example of
6 service; after the passing of his first wife, Mr. Garza was
7 fortunate enough to find love again with the former Mary Esther
8 Hernandez, and their marriage brought him two stepdaughters,
9 Marissa and Melissa; and

10 WHEREAS, Martin Garza set an inspiring example through his
11 leadership and compassion, and he will be remembered with deep
12 admiration by all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
14 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
15 Martin Henry Garza Sr. and extend sincere sympathy to the members of
16 his family: to his wife, Mary Esther Garza; to his sons, Martin
17 Garza Jr. and his wife, Charlene, and Edward Garza and his wife,
18 Anna Laura; to his stepdaughters, Marissa Guerra and her husband,
19 Orlando, and Melissa Rosales and her husband, Michael; to his
20 sisters, Emma, Mary Alice, and Christine Garza; to his
21 grandchildren, Elizabeth, Trey, Lily, and Noel Garza; and to his
22 many other relatives and 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 Martin
26 Garza.