

By: Hinojosa of Hidalgo

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SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Michael Joseph Westergren, who died July 17, 2025, at the age of 78; and

WHEREAS, Michael Westergren was born on August 10, 1946, in Corpus Christi; talented and determined from a young age, he was diagnosed with a congenital heart condition and underwent experimental open-heart surgery at the age of 17, which helped to advance practices in the field of cardiology, and he went on to excel in his studies at Del Mar College and at The University of Texas at Austin School of Law; and

WHEREAS, After earning his legal degree in 1970, he devoted his career to the practice of law and earned esteem as a public servant and as an expert mediator in private practice; he served the people of Texas with fairness and impartiality as a justice of the peace, county attorney, and district court judge, and he presided over one of the Lone Star State's most publicized criminal cases, the 1995 trial for the murder of beloved Tejano music singer Selena Quintanilla-Pérez; after an exemplary tenure, Judge Westergren retired from the bench in 2000, and he went on to serve for five years as the first in-house counsel for Del Mar College; and

WHEREAS, Mike shared a rewarding marriage with his first wife, the late Carolyn Sliter Westergren, and he was blessed to

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again find love in his life and married Frances Morey, with whom he shared many happy years; he was a devoted father to his two children, Kathleen and Michael, and his grandsons, his stepsons, and his many other loving extended family members enriched his life immeasurably; and

WHEREAS, Known among friends, colleagues, and members of the press for his boundless charm and signature bowtie, Mike embraced life with enthusiasm, and his numerous passions, interests, and pastimes included art, music, travel, chess, and a range of fitness and outdoor activities; Mike cherished time spent and meals shared with family and friends, and he was a devout Catholic and a lifelong Rotarian who gave generously of his time and energy to serve others in need in his community; and

WHEREAS, Michael Westergren was a distinguished judge and legal expert and a treasured Texan and member of the Corpus Christi community, and he will long be remembered with great respect and admiration by his many loved ones and by all who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Michael Joseph Westergren; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Mike Westergren.