

By: Zaffirini

S.R. No. 76

SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Margaret J. Gómez on her distinguished service as commissioner of Travis County Precinct Four and on her many contributions to Travis County; and

WHEREAS, Margaret J. Gómez was inspired to pursue politics by her father's interest in local and world news and his emphasis on education, and she went on to lead a trailblazing career as one of the most highly esteemed and longest-serving elected officials in Travis County; and

WHEREAS, In 1973, Margaret first became involved in county governance as an aide to Richard Moya, the first Latino elected as a Travis County commissioner; she broke barriers as the first woman to become a Travis County constable and served from 1980 until 1994, and in 1995, she became the first Mexican American woman elected to the Travis County Commissioners Court; and

WHEREAS, Margaret's wisdom and expertise as a commissioner have positively affected available resources for all of the county's residents and helped the county government to thrive in an era of tremendous growth and change; she guided the establishment of such institutions as the Travis County Health and Human Services Department, STAR Flight, and the Travis County Housing Authority, and her extensive committee and board leadership has led to broad-ranging improvements in such areas as

transportation and housing services, health care, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, Margaret has earned the respect and admiration of Austinites through her hands-on approach to leadership, which has included holding frequent public hearings, personally communicating with constituents, and informing voters about timely and relevant issues; she holds a bachelor's degree from Saint Edward's University, and she earned a master's degree from the school while fulfilling her duties as a county official; her numerous accolades and honors include being named Woman of the Year by the Texas Women's Political Caucus; and

WHEREAS, Known for promoting a long-term perspective in county governance, Margaret has tackled difficult issues with wisdom, integrity, and compassion, and her insight has helped to guide more than a half-century of progress in the region; she is a widely beloved public servant, and her outstanding contributions have made a positive and lasting impact in the lives of Travis County residents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commend Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez on her exemplary career and extend to her best wishes for success in all her future endeavors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.