

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE — FIRST CALLED SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

SEVENTH DAY

(Thursday, August 3, 2017)

The Senate met at 3:09 p.m. pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the President.

The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Bettencourt, Birdwell, Buckingham, Burton, Campbell, Creighton, Estes, Garcia, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffines, Huffman, Hughes, Kolkhorst, Menéndez, Miles, Nelson, Nichols, Perry, Rodríguez, Schwertner, Seliger, Taylor of Galveston, Taylor of Collin, Uresti, Watson, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini.

Absent-excused: Lucio.

The President announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

Father Tim Nolt, Saint Mary Cathedral, Austin, offered the invocation as follows:

God, to acknowledge that all is gift is to have hope that each day's work can bring You glory. May all who labor here this day draw inspiration from Your spirit as they plan, listen, deliberate, and vote. May the freedom we exercise in our daily endeavors benefit the common good rather than personal gain. And may Your blessing be with each individual present, be upon their families, and dwell in midst of their communities back home. Amen.

Senator Whitmire moved that the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day be dispensed with and the Journal be approved as printed.

The motion prevailed without objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Lucio was granted leave of absence for today on account of an illness in the family.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

HOUSE CHAMBER

Austin, Texas

Thursday, August 3, 2017 - 1

The Honorable President of the Senate
Senate Chamber

Austin, Texas

Mr. President:

I am directed by the house to inform the senate that the house has taken the following action:

THE HOUSE HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

HB 11

Thierry

Relating to pregnancy-related deaths and maternal morbidity, including postpartum depression.

HB 20

Ashby

Relating to an appropriation of money from the economic stabilization fund to decrease participants' health insurance costs for certain health benefit plans administered by the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

HB 80

Darby

Relating to a cost-of-living adjustment applicable to certain benefits paid by the Teacher Retirement System of Texas, including a related study.

HB 155

Phelan

Relating to the authority of an appraisal review board to direct changes in the appraisal roll and related appraisal records if a residence homestead is sold for less than the appraised value.

HB 165

Geren

Relating to the authority of a district court to hear and determine certain ad valorem tax appeals.

HB 192

King, Phil

Relating to the authority of the chief appraiser of an appraisal district to increase the appraised value of property in the tax year following the year in which the appraised value of the property is lowered as a result of a protest or appeal.

Respectfully,

/s/Robert Haney, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

HOUSE BILL ON FIRST READING

The following bill received from the House was read first time and referred to the committee indicated:

HB 2 to Committee on Business and Commerce.

REMARKS ORDERED PRINTED

On motion of Senator Garcia and by unanimous consent, her remarks regarding Manuel "Manny" Rodriguez were ordered reduced to writing and printed in the *Senate Journal* as follows:

Members, I rise today to pay tribute to Houston Independent School District Trustee Manuel "Manny" Rodriguez. Trustee Rodriguez passed away in Houston on Wednesday, July 19th, at the age of 65. Trustee Rodriguez was a pillar in the HISD community, a champion for public education and his

constituents in District III for over a decade. Before serving HISD, Trustee Rodriguez was a product of HISD, graduating from Austin High School in Houston's East End in 1970. A lifelong public servant, he served in the U.S. Air Force, worked as a community-relations specialist in the City of Houston, and was the founder of the MARVAA Corporation, which provides assistance in education, housing, and community involvement. Trustee Rodriguez was elected to the HISD board in 2003, and over the years held every office on the board, including President. During his tenure, he successfully fought for dual credit programs in Houston high schools and was integral in creating the maritime programs at Austin and Yates high schools. From 2008-2011, Trustee Rodriguez represented HISD on the Board of Directors of the Texas Association of School Boards, and in 2010, he was elected President of the Mexican American School Board Members Association. Members, I personally knew Manny for many years, and while we didn't see eye to eye on every issue, I never once doubted his commitment to public education and the children of Houston. He was a fighter, and he never forgot where he came from or who he represented. Every child in HISD is better off because of his service. I would like to offer condolences to his family, especially his wife of over 44 years, Virginia Rodriguez.

(Note: Prepared text)

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

Congratulatory Resolutions

SR 89 by Watson, Recognizing Maria Lozano on the occasion of her retirement.

SR 90 by Buckingham, Recognizing Franklin Randolph for receiving a Lifesaving Award.

SR 91 by Buckingham, Recognizing Bill Murphey on the occasion of his retirement.

SR 92 by Seliger, Recognizing Tommy R. Franks for his service to the country.

SR 93 by Whitmire, Recognizing Charlotte J. Davis for her contributions to her community and church.

SR 94 by Uresti, Commending Boys Town Texas for its contributions to the community.

SR 95 by Schwertner, Recognizing Aubrey and Evangeline Daniell on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

RECESS

On motion of Senator Whitmire, the Senate at 3:17 p.m. recessed, in memory of Jay Hinkie and Manuel Rodriguez, until 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

