

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE — SECOND CALLED SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

FIRST DAY

(Continued)

(Thursday, July 13, 2023)

AFTER RECESS

The Senate met at 2:12 p.m. and was called to order by the President.

AT EASE

The President at 2:14 p.m. announced the Senate would stand At Ease pending the receipt of House Messages and subject to the call of the Chair.

(Senator Huffman in Chair)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

HOUSE CHAMBER

Austin, Texas

Thursday, July 13, 2023 - 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:

HJR 2

Metcalf

Proposing a constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads; to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the governing body of certain appraisal entities.

Respectfully,
 /s/Stephen Brown,
 Chief Clerk
 House of Representatives

IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Senator Birdwell at 6:53 p.m. called the Senate to order as In Legislative Session.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

HOUSE CHAMBER
 Austin, Texas
 Thursday, July 13, 2023 - 2

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:

SB 2 Bettencourt Sponsor: Meyer
 Relating to providing property tax relief through the public school finance system, exemptions, limitations on appraisals and taxes, and property tax administration; authorizing the imposition of a fee.

SB 3 Bettencourt Sponsor: Geren
 Relating to the amount of the total revenue exemption for the franchise tax and the exclusion of certain taxable entities from the requirement to file a franchise tax report.

Respectfully,
 /s/Stephen Brown,
 Chief Clerk
 House of Representatives

(President in Chair)

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

On motion of Senator Bettencourt and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 8.02 and Senate Rule 10.01 were suspended to take up for consideration **HJR 2** at this time.

The President laid before the Senate the following resolution:

HJR 2, Proposing a constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads; to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes

imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the governing body of certain appraisal entities.

BETTENCOURT

The resolution was read.

Senator Gutierrez offered the following amendment to the resolution:

Floor Amendment No. 1

Amend **HJR 2** (house committee report) as follows:

(1) On page 7, line 15, between "amounts;" and "to", insert "to provide supplemental payments to full-time classroom teachers in school districts;"

(2) Add the following appropriately numbered SECTION to the resolution and renumber subsequent SECTIONS of the resolution appropriately:

SECTION ____ . Article VII, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Section 21 to read as follows:

Sec. 21. (a) A school district is entitled to state funding for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years for each full-time classroom teacher employed by the district in the applicable school year as follows:

(1) if the district has 20,000 or more students enrolled in the preceding school year, \$2,000 per full-time classroom teacher; and

(2) if the district has fewer than 20,000 students enrolled in the preceding school year, \$6,000 per full-time classroom teacher.

(b) A school district shall use money received under this section to provide a supplemental payment to each full-time classroom teacher in the district for the applicable school year in the amount received per full-time classroom teacher under Subsection (a) of this section.

(c) For each school year for which this section provides for supplemental payments for full-time classroom teachers, there is appropriated from the general revenue fund to the Texas Education Agency the amount necessary to fund the supplemental payments provided by this section. The agency shall distribute the money to school districts in the amount required to fund the supplemental payments.

(d) This section expires September 1, 2025.

GUTIERREZ	LAMANTIA
ALVARADO	MENÉNDEZ
BLANCO	MILES
ECKHARDT	WEST
HINOJOSA	WHITMIRE
JOHNSON	ZAFFIRINI

The amendment to **HJR 2** was read.

POINT OF ORDER

Senator Hughes raised a point of order that Floor Amendment No. 1 to **HJR 2** was not germane to the body of the resolution.

POINT OF ORDER RULING

The President ruled that the point of order was well-taken and sustained.

Question recurring on the adoption of **HJR 2**, the resolution was considered immediately and was adopted by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

BILLS SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bills in the presence of the Senate after the captions had been read: **SB 2, SB 3**.

RESOLUTION SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled resolution in the presence of the Senate: **HJR 2**.

CO-SPONSORS OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

On motion of Senator Bettencourt, Senators Alvarado, Birdwell, Blanco, Campbell, Creighton, Flores, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffman, Hughes, King, Kolkhorst, LaMantia, Menéndez, Middleton, Miles, Nichols, Parker, Paxton, Perry, Schwertner, Sparks, Springer, West, Whitmire, and Zaffirini will be shown as Co-sponsors of **HJR 2**.

MOTION TO ADJOURN SINE DIE

On motion of Senator Zaffirini, the Senate of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, at 8:05 p.m. agreed to adjourn sine die, in memory of Tamoria RaShon Jones, Mario A. Martinez, Belle Ortiz, and Karon Kaye Tinsley Goolsby, pending the completion of administrative duties and the receipt of messages from the House.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

Memorial Resolutions

SR 36 by Miles, In memory of Tamoria RaShon Jones.

SR 37 by LaMantia, In memory of Rosalinda Marroquin.

SR 40 by Flores, In memory of the life of Matthew J. Mann.

SR 42 by Zaffirini and Gutierrez, In memory of Adolfo Alvarez.

Congratulatory Resolutions

SR 38 by LaMantia, Recognizing the Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement for receiving a Nursing Expansion Grant.

SR 39 by Hughes, Recognizing Robert and Cheree Stovall on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

SR 41 by Birdwell, Recognizing Kim Patterson on the occasion of her retirement.

ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

The President announced that the hour for final adjournment of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, had arrived and declared the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, adjourned sine die, in memory of Tamoria RaShon Jones, Mario A.

Martinez, Belle Ortiz, and Karon Kaye Tinsley Goolsby, at 8:05 p.m. Thursday, July 13, 2023.

APPENDIX

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ENROLLED

July 13, 2023

SB 2, SB 3, SR 36, SR 37, SR 38, SR 39, SR 40, SR 41, SR 42

SENT TO GOVERNOR

July 21, 2023

SB 2, SB 3

SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

July 22, 2023

SB 2, SB 3

In Memory
of
Mario A. Martinez
Senate Resolution 31

WHEREAS, The death of Mario A. Martinez on June 28, 2023, at the age of 69, has profoundly saddened the many people whose lives he touched over the course of a noteworthy career spanning nearly five decades in the legislative community; and

WHEREAS, The son of Charlie Martinez Jr. and Mary Louise Martinez, Mario Martinez was born in Bay City on June 2, 1954; he grew up with three siblings, Cecilia, Julia, and Charlie; after graduating from Southwest Texas State University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, he began working as a legislative aide to State Representative Tom Uher and rose to become chief of staff; he went on to serve as governmental affairs director for the Texas State Troopers Association for more than a decade; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Martinez married the love of his life, Louann, in 1994, and they became the parents of two treasured daughters, Avery and McKenna; the couple founded the consulting firm Martinez & Associates in 1996, and until his passing, Mr. Martinez represented major industries and law enforcement entities, providing expertise regarding a number of challenging issues; a loyal and diligent advocate for his clients, he distinguished himself through his integrity, professionalism, and deep expertise in the inner workings of government; his big heart, engaging personality, and wonderful sense of humor brought him numerous close friendships, and he was a kind mentor to many; and

WHEREAS, Above all, Mr. Martinez was dedicated to his family; he encouraged his daughters to follow their dreams while instilling the importance of education, a strong work ethic, and good character; in addition, he shared with them his love of hunting, fishing, and adopting stray animals; he also enjoyed spending time in Rockport on his boat; and

WHEREAS, Deeply caring, Mario Martinez sought to use his skill and influence not only for the benefit of his clients, but also for the betterment of Texas, and he will be greatly missed by all who were privileged to share in the richness of his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Mario A. Martinez and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his wife, Louann Martinez; to his daughters, Avery Martinez and her fiancé, Ryan Harrington, and McKenna Martinez; to his honorary daughter, Meg Green; to his sisters, Cecilia Martinez and Julia Ebanks and her husband, Ernie; to his brother, Charlie Martinez III, and his wife, Theresa; to his nephew, Charles Martinez, and his partner, Trevor Kent; to his nieces, Nicole Martinez, Mallory Drackett and her husband, Demiko, and Annemarie Ebanks; to his great-nieces, Clarice and Addison Warnock; and to his other relatives and host of friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Mario Martinez.

MENÉNDEZ

ALVARADO

BLANCO

CREIGHTON

ECKHARDT

FLORES

GUTIERREZ

HANCOCK

HINOJOSA

HUFFMAN

HUGHES

JOHNSON

KING

KOLKHORST

LAMANTIA

MILES

NICHOLS

PARKER

PERRY

SCHWERTNER

SPARKS

SPRINGER

WEST

ZAFFIRINI

