



SR0147

LRB100 10132 KLG 21564 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Filiberto R. Martinez of Elgin, who passed away on January 17, 2017 at the age of 88; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez was born in Mission, Texas to Telesforo and Rafaela (Rodriguez) Martinez on March 16, 1928; in 1930, he moved to Matanzas, Mexico; his childhood years in Mexico were very difficult and so at an early age, he had to leave school to work in the fields and tend to the farm animals; in 1946, at the age of 17, he left Mexico and returned to Texas; and

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez worked picking tomatoes and other vegetables; he also learned the hard work of cotton picking; he eventually found his way to Elgin, and worked for the Campbell Soup factory in West Chicago, and then he worked on the railroad; he later worked at the Woodruff & Edward Foundry along the Fox River; he was employed by Chicago Rawhide for over 30 years, retiring in 1993; and

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez returned to Matanzas for a visit in 1956 and met Josefina Delgado; they married that same year and were married for 60 years; together they returned to Texas with other friends and family members beginning a long

20

21

22

1 procession of people from Matanzas to Elgin; and

2 WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez and his wife were very active
3 in the Elgin community; together they formed the Club
4 Guadalupano of Elgin with the purpose of maintaining the
5 traditions of their culture; they organized Mexican
6 Independence Day festivities and parades, Virgen de Guadalupe
7 celebrations, the Posadas, picnics, and more; and

8 WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez was a great son, always aware
9 of the needs of his parents; he was a good husband and father,
10 ensuring the well-being of his family; he was a good brother,
11 helping his extended family as best he could; he was a good
12 uncle, on several occasions taking the role of father for many
13 of his nieces and nephews in the absence of their own fathers;
14 he was a loving grandfather, always promoting education as
15 something that once achieved could never be wrestled away and
16 as the path to a better future; he was a good citizen,
17 fulfilling his duties in his birth country as well as the
18 country where he was raised; he generously helped others
19 improve the standard of living for themselves and their
20 families; and

21 WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez invested in water projects for
22 Matanzas; he always had the dream that someday his town would
23 have portable water; his desire was that the people of Matanzas

1 would enjoy the same comforts he enjoyed in Elgin, especially
2 for the women who are most impacted by the lack of running
3 water; he was a great man, a pioneer, and an extraordinary
4 person; and

5 WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez was preceded in death by his
6 parents; his sister, Victoria; and his brothers, Angel, Miguel,
7 and Panfilo; and

8 WHEREAS, Filiberto Martinez is survived by his wife,
9 Josefina; his children, Martha (Jesus) Martinez, Filiberto
10 "Tito" (Socorro) Martinez Jr., Rosamaria "Rose" Martinez, and
11 Monica M. (Hector) Vallejo; his grandchildren, Adrian,
12 Vanessa, Miguel, Mario, Janel (Eric), Monica (Don), and Juan
13 Andres "Papo"; his great-grandchildren, Leslie and Cairo; his
14 sisters, Reyes (Angel), Juana, and Aurelia; his brothers,
15 Socorro and Ernesto; and many nieces and nephews; therefore, be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
19 family and friends, mourn the passing of Filiberto R. Martinez,
20 and extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and
21 all who knew and loved him; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Filiberto Martinez as an expression
2 of our deepest sympathy.