

By: Lambert

H.R. No. 96

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life lived with joy and purpose drew to a close
2 with the passing of Gilbert J. Riojas III of Corpus Christi on
3 December 13, 2024, at the age of 47; and

4 WHEREAS, Gilly Riojas was born on May 13, 1977, to Tina and
5 Gilbert Riojas, and he grew up with three younger sisters, Jamie,
6 Caitlin, and Ryan; he excelled as a football player at Austin High
7 School, and following his graduation in 1996, he continued in his
8 parents' and grandparents' footsteps by enrolling at Texas A&M
9 University, where he made many lifelong friends; and

10 WHEREAS, Over the course of a successful career, Mr. Riojas
11 worked as general manager for La Babia Cattle Company, which
12 operates ranches in Mexico and South Texas; an admired leader, he
13 left an indelible mark on the agricultural industry, mentoring many
14 young professionals and representing the Texas Beef Council as a
15 director for the Federation of State Beef Councils; in addition, he
16 lent his expertise to the Texas Cattle Feeders Association and the
17 Beef Promotion and Research Council of Texas, and he served as
18 director of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, On December 4, 2004, Mr. Riojas wed the love of his
21 life, the former Andrea Martinka, and the couple enjoyed a
22 rewarding marriage that spanned 20 years; his life was further
23 enriched by the close bond he shared with their daughter, Rylynn,
24 and he always made time for her activities, including sports and

1 school events; in all his endeavors, he drew strength from his
2 Catholic faith; and

3 WHEREAS, Beloved for his kindness, generosity, and exuberant
4 personality, Gilly Riojas leaves behind numerous friends and loved
5 ones whose lives are far richer for having known him, and he will
6 always hold a treasured place in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Gilbert J. Riojas
9 III and extend heartfelt condolences to the members of his family:
10 to his wife, Andrea Martinka Riojas; to his daughter, Rylynn Sara
11 Riojas; to his parents, Bettina Lynn McSpadden and Gilbert J.
12 Riojas Jr.; to his sisters, Jamie Riojas, Caitlin Riojas and her
13 spouse, Tyler Canon, and Ryan Riojas; to his nephews and nieces,
14 Jackson, Blue, and Maddie Hall and Penny Canon; to his
15 grandparents, Ouida and Tom Schliesing; and to his other relatives
16 and many friends; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Gilly
20 Riojas.