



**STATE SENATOR
EDDIE LUCIO, JR.
DISTRICT 27**



Austin Capitol Office
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 463-0127

7 North Park Plaza
Brownsville, TX 78521
(956) 548-0227

500 S. Kansas
Weslaco, TX 78596
(956) 968-9927

February 27, 2013

**Senator Lucio Offers Senate Resolution
Honoring Pope Benedict XVI**

AUSTIN - Today, Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr. (D-Brownsville) offered Senate Resolution No. 328, honoring Pope Benedict XVI on the occasion of his retirement from the papacy:

SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins people around the world in honoring the service of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, who will retire from the papacy on February 28, 2013, after eight years leading the Roman Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, The spiritual leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics, Pope Benedict XVI is celebrated for his defense of Christian values and for his emphasis on the inviolability of human life from conception to natural death; and

WHEREAS, An advocate for social justice, he interceded on behalf of migrants and refugees worldwide, speaking for those whose voices would not have been heard otherwise, and he has called for an equitable distribution of world resources and for environmental protections to ensure human health; and

WHEREAS, A proponent of religious freedom, tolerance, and cooperation, Benedict deepened ties with many religions during his tenure as Pope, including Judaism and Islam; he was the first Pope to visit and pray at a Mosque in more than 2,000 years; within his own Church, he expanded the use of the traditional Latin Mass and eased rules regarding the conversion of Anglicans to Catholicism; and

- More -

WHEREAS, Born Joseph Ratzinger on April 16, 1927, in Marktl am Inn, Germany, he was ordained a priest in 1951 and was a professor of theology at numerous European universities; he served as the Archbishop of Munich and Freising and was made a cardinal in 1977 by Pope Paul VI; he also served as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and as Vice-Dean of the College of Cardinals; in April 2005, he was elected to the papacy at the age of 78, the oldest cardinal to become Pope in 275 years; and

WHEREAS, Known as an academic, scholar, and teacher, Pope Benedict is a prolific writer, having written 66 books throughout his life; he also has authored numerous articles and established a journal devoted to theology, and he oversaw the preparation of the new Catechism of the Catholic Church; he is noted for writings that promote maintaining traditional Christian values in the modern world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the service of Pope Benedict XVI; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of Pope Benedict XVI

---END---