

RESOLUTION

IN THE SPIRIT OF EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG.

WHEREAS, Associate Justice Joan Ruth Bader Ginsburg was born on March 15, 1933 in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, she married Martin ('Marty') D. Ginsburg in 1954 and they were married until his death in 2010; and

WHEREAS, she and Marty had two children – Jane C. Ginsburg and James Steven Ginsburg; and

WHEREAS, she received her B.A. in Government from Cornell University in 1954; and

WHEREAS, she and Marty welcomed their first child in 1955, and she successfully juggled marriage, new parenthood, law school, and her role as a Harvard Law review editor when she began her legal education at Harvard Law School in 1956; and

WHEREAS, she transferred to Columbia Law School in 1958, received her LL.B in 1959, served as Columbia Law Review's editor, and graduated first in her class; and

WHEREAS, despite her unparalleled performance in law school, Ruth Ginsburg faced rampant discrimination on the basis of her gender and struggled to find work at a law firm after graduation; and

WHEREAS, she served as a law clerk to Judge Edmund L. Palmieri of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York from 1959 to 1961; and

WHEREAS, she then became the associate director of a comparative law project sponsored by Columbia University which required her to study the Swedish legal system; her work in Sweden profoundly influenced her views on gender equality; and

WHEREAS, she joined the faculty of Rutgers Law School in Newark, New Jersey, and taught there from 1963 to 1972; she then joined the faculty of Columbia Law School in New York City, New York as its first female full professor, and taught there from 1972 to 1980; and

WHEREAS, she advocated as a volunteer attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), co-founded the ACLU's Women's Rights Project and was a member of its board of directors and one of its general counsel in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, for her love towards equal justice under the law and passion for civil liberties, President Jimmy Carter appointed her to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in 1980, where she served for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, President William J. Clinton nominated Ruth Ginsburg to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court on June 15, 1993 and the U.S. Senate confirmed Ginsburg's appointment in a 96-3 vote on August 3, 1993; and

WHEREAS, Justice Ginsburg was the first Jewish woman and the second woman to serve on the Court, after Sandra Day O'Connor; and

WHEREAS, in selfless service to her country, Justice Ginsburg embraced the Jewish values of *tikkun olam* ("repairing the world") in her legal career by being a champion for gender equality, voting rights, immigration rights, social justice, and LGBTQ+ rights; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure on the U.S. Supreme Court, Justice Ginsburg authored 213 majority opinions and 147 dissenting opinions, bringing the country closer to a more perfect union and helping secure the blessings of our liberty and her lifetime work teaches us *E Pluribus Unum*, (“out of many, one”) in our beloved country; and

WHEREAS, Justice Ginsburg passed away from complications from metastatic pancreatic cancer on September 18, 2020 and following Justice Ginsburg’s death, fellow Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor said of her friend: “Ruth Bader Ginsburg was an American hero. She spent her life fighting for the equality of all people, and she was a pathbreaking champion of women’s rights. She served our Court and country with consummate dedication, tirelessness, and passion for justice. She has left a legacy few would rival.”; and

WHEREAS, our Nation and City are forever indebted to the work and legacy of Ruth Bader Ginsburg;
NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The San Antonio City Council on behalf of the City as a whole:

- a) expresses heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Ruth Bader Ginsburg and honors her lifetime of noble service to the United States as a maverick attorney, distinguished professor and legal scholar, and prestigious jurist;
- b) honors Ruth Bader Ginsburg for her 27-year tenure on the States Supreme Court of the United States;
- c) respects Ruth Bader Ginsburg for enlightening the minds of scholars and attorneys alike through her work as a law professor; and
- d) upholds Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s American legacy as a profound guardian and defender of the Constitution and civil liberties and hopes that through her legacy the rights for all continue to be secured.

SECTION 2. This Resolution is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise it is effective ten days after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of November 2020.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Tina J. Flores, City Clerk

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney