

League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT "LITTLE JOE" FOR THE 2019 NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS HERITAGE FELLOWSHIP AWARD

WHEREAS, LULAC is our Nation's oldest, largest, and most respected Hispano/Latino civil rights organization, established in 1929. Our mission is to seek the advancement of Hispanic Americans in the areas of education, employment, and civil rights; and

WHEREAS, LULAC is committed to upholding the Constitution of the United States, including those rights related to protecting the individual rights of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) annually awards up to NEA National Heritage Fellowship Awards to master folk and traditional artist to recognize artistic excellence, lifetime achievement, and contributions to our nations' traditional arts heritage;

WHEREAS, Jose Maria De Leon Hernandez, "Little Joe," is an American Musical Treasure and Legend Performer, performing primarily as an American Tejano and Polka performer.

WHEREAS, "Little Joe" is an icon in the Latino/Chicano culture having the title of "King of the Brown Sound;"

WHEREAS, "Little Joe" and his band "La Familia" has won a Grammy Award for Best Tejano Album of the Year and been nominated for numerous other Grammy Awards;

WHEREAS, "Little Joe" has entertained audiences around the world from more than 50 years, on 70 albums and countless shows;

WHEREAS, "Little Joe's" style has been called Tejano, Tex-Mex, Norteno, Chicano, La Ordan;

WHEREAS, the album with the song "Las Nubes" along with the others is used in Latino and Chicano studies;

WHEREAS, the United Farm Workers picked up the song "Las Nubes" as their marching song, which is still used today;

WHEREAS, "Little Joe" became friends with Cesar Chavez and became a major figure in the civil rights movement;

WHEREAS, "Little Joe" founded the Little Joe Diabetes and Prevention organization;

RESOLVE, the LULAC National Convention meeting help on July 20, 2018 endorses the nomination of Jose Maria De Leon Hernandez for the 2019 National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Fellowship Award;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2018 LULAC National Convention on July 21, 2018.

Domingo Garcia LULAC National President