

<u>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:</u> Tuesday, December 19, 2017 **Contact:** Cynthia Cabral, Communications Director office: 210-733-6604 | cell: 210-639-8686 | <u>Cynthia.Cabral@senate.texas.gov</u>

Senator José Menéndez Expresses Condolences on the Passing of State Representative Ruth Jones McClendon

San Antonio, Texas – State Senator José Menéndez has released the following statement on the passing of longtime friend and esteemed colleague State Representative Ruth Jones McClendon, who served in the Texas Legislature from 1996-2016. Rep. McClendon worked tirelessly on multiple legislative reforms for District 120 and the entire state throughout her term and died on Tuesday after a brave and lengthy battle with cancer.

Senator José Menéndez released the following statement:

"Cehlia and I are deeply saddened by the passing of our dear friend Ruth Jones McClendon. We have lost a champion of the people and a courageous leader of the State of Texas. When I first came into the Texas Legislature as a freshman member, Ruth always offered advice and guidance that later became invaluable to my tenure as a public servant. She was an effective role model who devoted her life to empowering the needy, and she set the bar high for those of us who followed in her footsteps serving in San Antonio's City Council. Ruth was a strong and tenacious leader who cared passionately about making a positive difference in the community and promoting social justice. Although her colleagues and the entire state is in mourning, we will be forever inspired by the legacy that Representative McClendon leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Denver, Angela and everyone who knew and loved Ruth."