

By: Zwiener

H.R. No. 285

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Kimberly Shappley of Austin has distinguished
2 herself through her exceptional work as an advocate for the
3 transgender youth community in Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, The proud mother of a transgender daughter, Kai,
5 Ms. Shappley began her activism around the time that Kai entered
6 kindergarten; the family then resided in Pearland, and Ms. Shappley
7 spoke at school board meetings about anti-trans policies that
8 frequently reduced Kai to tears; in 2017, she and Kai testified in a
9 Texas Senate committee hearing against the so-called bathroom bill
10 that would have prevented transgender people from accessing
11 restrooms and locker rooms that matched their gender identity;
12 mother and daughter also shared their story in an
13 Emmy-Award-winning documentary; and

14 WHEREAS, In order to provide a more nurturing and affirming
15 school environment for Kai, Ms. Shappley moved the family to Austin
16 in 2018, and she has continued to fight for the rights of
17 transgender youth; in 2021, Kimberly and Kai received further
18 attention when Kai delivered powerful testimony before the Senate
19 Committee on State Affairs in opposition to three
20 transgender-related bills; video of her appearance went viral on
21 social media, raising awareness across the country of proposed
22 legislation targeting the trans community and their families; and

23 WHEREAS, By courageously speaking out in behalf of
24 transgender children and serving as a stalwart ally, Kimberly

1 Shappley has set an inspiring example for other parents and helped
2 the public gain a greater understanding of issues that affect
3 transgender youth and their families; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
5 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Kimberly Shappley
6 for her advocacy in behalf of the transgender youth community in
7 Texas and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success in
8 her important work; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for Ms. Shappley as an expression of high regard by the
11 Texas House of Representatives.