

By: Morales of Harris

H.R. No. 1493

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the devastating winter storm of
2 February 2021, many leaders and philanthropists across the nation
3 came to the aid of Texans in need; and

4 WHEREAS, One such individual was U.S. Congresswoman
5 Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York; shortly after the storm left
6 millions of Texans without power, heat, or access to food and water,
7 she spearheaded a fundraising campaign that raised \$5 million in
8 less than a week to benefit Texas residents; the money was evenly
9 allocated among five Texas nonprofits, including the Houston Food
10 Bank, Feeding Texas, Family Eldercare, The Bridge Homeless Recovery
11 Center, and the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO); and

12 WHEREAS, In addition, Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez flew to
13 Texas to help distribute emergency supplies at the Houston Food
14 Bank with Congresswomen Sheila Jackson Lee and Sylvia R. Garcia of
15 Texas; she also visited residents of Representative Garcia's
16 district on the east side of Houston; and

17 WHEREAS, A third-generation Bronxite, Congresswoman
18 Ocasio-Cortez represents the 14th district of New York in the U.S.
19 Congress; after earning degrees in economics and international
20 relations at Boston University and interning in the office of the
21 late Senator Ted Kennedy, she returned to the Bronx to work as a
22 community organizer and went on to serve as educational director
23 with the National Hispanic Institute; and

24 WHEREAS, Following the financial crisis of 2008,

1 Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez experienced firsthand the challenges
2 faced by many Americans when her family was forced to sell their
3 home after her father's death; she took on extra shifts as a
4 waitress and bartender to help out, and her dedication to issues
5 affecting working people deepened as a result; in 2016, she
6 volunteered as an organizer with the Bernie Sanders presidential
7 campaign, and two years later, she stepped onto the national stage
8 when she was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; and

9 WHEREAS, A true champion for working-class people across the
10 country, Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez has inspired her fellow
11 citizens with her eloquent advocacy and her passionate commitment
12 to social, racial, economic, and environmental justice, and her
13 generous actions in the aftermath of the 2021 winter storm have
14 earned her the lasting admiration and appreciation of many Texans;
15 now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
17 Legislature hereby commend the leaders and philanthropists who
18 assisted the people of Texas in February 2021 and extend to them
19 sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work.