

By: Collier

H.R. No. 1803

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, TaKiyah Wallace-McMillian is helping to advance
2 diversity, equity, and inclusion in Tarrant County and the
3 surrounding communities through her work as founder and executive
4 director of Brown Girls Do Ballet; and

5 WHEREAS, A nonprofit organization, Brown Girls Do Ballet
6 promotes diversity in the arts through annual scholarships, a
7 mentor network, and community programs to empower young girls; in
8 2013, the Brown Girls Do Ballet Small Studio Grant and scholarship
9 program was established to provide financial assistance for young
10 dancers; further support for aspiring ballerinas is available
11 through the organization's pointe shoe program, and a supply closet
12 was created following natural disasters that displaced dancers in
13 Houston and Baton Rouge; the initiative continues to provide
14 dancewear to ballerinas in need through corporate and individual
15 donations; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to its support for dancers' training,
17 Brown Girls Do Ballet helps to increase awareness and participation
18 of underrepresented populations in ballet programs by organizing
19 and arranging ballet performances, photo exhibitions, and social
20 media campaigns; and

21 WHEREAS, Ms. Wallace-McMillian is a former teacher and
22 television host, and she is the owner of Some Sweet Photography; her
23 work has been featured in several publications, including *Wedding*
24 *Nouveau* and *The Washington Post*; she holds a bachelor's degree from

1 the University of North Texas and a master's degree from Texas
2 Christian University; and

3 WHEREAS, Through her passion, dedication, and tireless
4 efforts, TaKiyah Wallace-McMillian has made a positive and lasting
5 difference in the lives of countless young girls and set an
6 inspiring example of community engagement; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
8 Legislature hereby commend TaKiyah Wallace-McMillian and Brown
9 Girls Do Ballet for supporting dancers of color and extend to all
10 those associated with the organization sincere best wishes for the
11 future; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for Ms. Wallace-McMillian as an expression of high regard
14 by the Texas House of Representatives.