

By: Eckhardt, Alvarado

S.R. No. 345

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 26th annual Barbara Jordan National Forum took
2 place in Austin in February 2023, providing a fitting opportunity
3 to recognize the outstanding students who organized the event; and

4 WHEREAS, A native Houstonian, Barbara Jordan was the first
5 African American to hold a seat in a state Senate since 1883 and the
6 first African American woman from the Deep South to serve in the
7 U.S. House of Representatives; during her time in Congress, she
8 distinguished herself as a dedicated and influential advocate for
9 civil rights; she also served on the Judiciary Committee, and she
10 gained national recognition for her remarks on the Watergate
11 scandal; in 1979, she accepted a position as the Lyndon B. Johnson
12 Centennial Chair in National Policy at the LBJ School of Public
13 Affairs, and she held that role until her passing in 1996; and

14 WHEREAS, Each February, the LBJ School of Public Affairs
15 hosts a monthlong forum in honor of this trailblazing lawmaker, and
16 the event is organized by students who are elected by their peers;
17 the 2023 Barbara Jordan National Forum student leaders include
18 Morgan Brown, Jordan Nellums, and Jennifer Perales, who are all
19 completing graduate studies in public affairs; and

20 WHEREAS, This year's forum featured a day of volunteerism as
21 well as a number of lectures and other events, such as a keynote
22 speech by former congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, a ceremony to
23 present the Barbara Jordan Public Service Award, and the Barbara
24 Jordan Freedom Foundation Luncheon; and

1 WHEREAS, Through their efforts to make the Barbara Jordan
2 National Forum a success, the event's student organizers are
3 helping to ensure that Barbara Jordan's legacy of activism and
4 public service is carried on by future generations of civic
5 leaders; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
7 hereby commemorate the 26th annual Barbara Jordan National Forum
8 and extend to the event's student leaders sincere best wishes for
9 the future.