## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The economy of Texas benefits greatly from the 2 efforts of homegrown entrepreneurs, and in that tradition, the jewelry firm of James Avery Craftsman, Inc., of Kerrville opened 3 its 50th retail location in Georgetown on April 10, 2009; and 4 5 WHEREAS, James Avery founded the company in 1954 in his mother-in-law's garage in the Texas Hill Country, handcrafting his 6 7 own jewelry designs; within three years, he had hired his first employee and distributed his first catalog of religious jewelry; 8 9 and WHEREAS, In 1965, the company was incorporated as James Avery 10 Craftsman, Inc., and in 1967 it moved to a 40-acre corporate 11 12 headquarters two blocks from the original garage in Kerrville; and 13 WHEREAS, Today, the company operates 50 stores in Texas, 14 Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, employing designers, craftsmen, sales associates, and support personnel; 55 15 16 years after his first handmade pieces, Mr. Avery continues to design new jewelry while his son, Chris Avery, runs the company; and 17 18 WHEREAS, For more than half a century, James Avery Craftsman, Inc., has contributed to the prosperity of Texas, and the opening of 19 20 the new store in Georgetown is indeed cause for celebration; now, 21 therefore, be it 22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas 23 Legislature hereby congratulate James Avery Craftsman, Inc., on the

opening of its 50th retail store and extend to the company's

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- 1 management and staff sincere best wishes for continued success and
- 2 happiness; and, be it further
- 3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 4 prepared for the company as an expression of high regard by the
- 5 Texas House of Representatives.

Hilderbran Gattis

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2084 was adopted by the House on May 14, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House