

By: Rodriguez of Travis

H.R. No. 477

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Louis Black is retiring in 2017 as editor and
2 publisher of the *Austin Chronicle*, which he cofounded 36 years ago;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A New Jersey native, Louis Black relocated to Austin
5 in the 1970s, and after earning a film degree from The University of
6 Texas at Austin, he launched the *Austin Chronicle* with cofounder
7 Nick Barbaro in September 1981; since then, he has remained at the
8 paper's helm as copublisher and coeditor, authoring the popular
9 Page Two column, in which he has covered a broad range of personal,
10 political, and cultural topics; through the years, his visionary
11 guidance and expertise have helped the publication remain one of
12 the few independently owned alternative weeklies in a rapidly
13 changing print media industry; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Black has also played a vital role in shaping
15 the Austin entertainment scene; since 1982, he has produced the
16 annual Austin Music Awards to honor local musicians, and in 1987, he
17 cofounded South by Southwest, which has gone on to become one of the
18 most prominent music, film, and interactive festivals in the world,
19 giving a platform to countless artists in its three-decade history;
20 moreover, he is a founding member of the Austin Film Society, and
21 following his retirement, he plans to continue working creatively
22 through his two production companies, Production for Use and Louis
23 Black Productions; and

24 WHEREAS, Although Louis Black's departure from the *Chronicle*

1 marks the end of an era, his contributions to journalism and to the
2 arts will long resonate in the Austin community and beyond, and he
3 may indeed reflect with justifiable pride on his many achievements;
4 now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
6 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate Louis Black on
7 his retirement from the *Austin Chronicle* and extend to him sincere
8 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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