

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Locally owned and operated enterprises that build a
2 record of dependability and longevity enjoy a special degree of
3 esteem in their communities, and the Williams Chicken chain of
4 restaurants in North Texas is celebrating its 30th anniversary in
5 2017; and

6 WHEREAS, Company founder and CEO Hiawatha Williams got his
7 start in the restaurant business when he went to work for a
8 nationwide fast-food chain while attending Paul Quinn College; he
9 remained with that company for 18 years before striking out on his
10 own in 1987 and opening the first Williams Chicken location in South
11 Dallas; and

12 WHEREAS, In the three decades since, Williams Chicken has
13 grown to include 40 stores, which provide jobs for more than 500
14 employees; these restaurants, with their distinctive yellow and
15 orange color scheme, have become popular destinations for fans of
16 fried chicken across North Texas; and

17 WHEREAS, A man of strong religious faith, Mr. Williams has
18 served as a mentor for many of his employees, and he also supports a
19 number of community outreach efforts to benefit young people and
20 education; as a pioneering African American entrepreneur, he has
21 been featured in such publications as *Black Enterprise*, *Our Texas*,
22 and the *Dallas Business Journal*, which presented him with a
23 Minority Business Leader Award; and

24 WHEREAS, By creating jobs and helping to strengthen the

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1 economic environment of North Texas, Williams Chicken is
2 contributing to the vitality of that region, and it is fitting that
3 the anniversary of its founding be recognized; now, therefore, be
4 it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
6 Legislature hereby commemorate the 30th anniversary of Williams
7 Chicken and extend to Hiawatha Williams and everyone associated
8 with the restaurants sincere best wishes for continued success;
9 and, be it further

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

Giddings
Rose

Straus	Goldman	Oliverson
Allen	Gonzales of Williamson	Ortega
Alonzo	González of El Paso	Paddie
Alvarado	Gooden	Parker
Anchia	Guerra	Paul
Anderson of Dallas	Guillen	Perez
Anderson of McLennan	Gutierrez	Phelan
Arévalo	Hefner	Phillips
Ashby	Hernandez	Pickett
Bailes	Herrero	Price
Bell	Hinojosa	Raney
Bernal	Holland	Raymond
Biedermann	Howard	Reynolds
Blanco	Huberty	Rinaldi
Bohac	Hunter	Roberts
Bonnen of Brazoria	Isaac	Rodriguez of Bexar
Bonnen of Galveston	Israel	Rodriguez of Travis
Burkett	Johnson of Dallas	Romero, Jr.
Burns	Johnson of Harris	Rose
Burrows	Kacal	Sanford
Button	Keough	Schaefer
Cain	King of Hemphill	Schofield
Canales	King of Parker	Schubert
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Shaheen
Clardy	Klick	Sheffield
Coleman	Koop	Shine
Collier	Krause	Simmons
Cook	Kuempel	Smithee
Cortez	Lambert	Springer
Cosper	Landgraf	Stephenson
Craddick	Lang	Stickland
Cyrier	Larson	Stucky
Dale	Laubenberg	Swanson
Darby	Leach	Thierry
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Thompson of Brazoria
Davis of Harris	Lozano	Thompson of Harris
Dean	Lucio III	Tinderholt
Deshotel	Martinez	Turner
Dukes	Metcalf	Uresti
Dutton	Meyer	VanDeaver
Elkins	Miller	Villalba
Faircloth	Minjarez	Vo
Fallon	Moody	Walle
Farrar	Morrison	White
Flynn	Muñoz, Jr.	Wilson
Frank	Murphy	Workman
Frullo	Murr	Wray
Geren	Neave	Wu
Gervin-Hawkins	Nevárez	Zedler
Giddings	Oliveira	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1511 was adopted by the House on May 4, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House