

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 626

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Hiawatha Williams for 30 years of entrepreneurial success as the founder and chief executive officer of Williams Chicken; and

WHEREAS, Hiawatha Williams opened the first Williams Chicken in 1987; today, the popular Dallas-based casual food chain has 40 stores, including 20 franchises, and is responsible for more than 500 employees in North Texas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams has found entrepreneurial success while upholding the highest standards of business ethics and practices; he has promoted a philanthropic business model and fostered a culture among employees of giving back to the community by supporting a number of outreach programs and educational projects; and

WHEREAS, A highly respected mentor to many and a true business leader, Mr. Williams has been featured in numerous publications and has shared his story on several television programs; he is also frequently invited to talk with students, and he is known for helping to inspire others to become entrepreneurial pioneers; and

WHEREAS, In celebration of three decades of success, Williams Chicken is hosting a special anniversary gala and benefit on April 21, 2017; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby commend Hiawatha Williams on his thriving business and on his many contributions to the Dallas community and congratulate him on the 30th anniversary of Williams Chicken; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as a memento of this special anniversary.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 18, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate