

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 806

**WHEREAS**, The Reverend Chris Girata, rector of Calvary Episcopal Church in Memphis, Tennessee, is serving as Chaplain of the Day for the Texas Senate on May 18, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, A native of Florida, Reverend Girata completed his bachelor's degree in religious studies at Stetson University, and he went on to earn his master of theological studies from Emory University and his master of divinity cum laude from Virginia Theological Seminary; he is currently working toward his doctorate of ministry at Duke University; and

**WHEREAS**, Since becoming rector of Calvary Episcopal in 2012, Reverend Girata has worked to inspire congregants to take an active role in the church and its outreach ministry; youth participation in the church has tripled during his tenure, and attendance at Sunday services has grown every year, particularly among new members in their 20s and 30s; and

**WHEREAS**, Before arriving at his current post, Reverend Girata was associate rector at Saint Luke's Episcopal Church in Birmingham, Alabama, from 2008 to 2012, and as a seminarian, he served at Washington National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and at Saint John's Episcopal Church in Chevy Chase, Maryland; he is acknowledged as a leader in the Episcopal Church, and he regularly presents at church-wide conferences; in all his endeavors, he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Nicole, whom he met as a student at Stetson University; and

**WHEREAS**, This esteemed clergyman has wholeheartedly committed himself to advancing the mission of the Episcopal Church, and it is indeed a pleasure to welcome him to this chamber; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby recognize the Reverend Chris Girata for his service as Chaplain of the Day and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Reverend Girata as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

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

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate