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By:  Anderson H.R. No. 303

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Representatives of Baylor University are gathering in Austin on February 12, 2019, for Baylor Day at the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Baylor University was established February 1, 1845, by an act of the Congress of the Republic of Texas; it is the oldest continuously operating university in the state; and

WHEREAS, This private Christian university and nationally ranked research institution provides a vibrant campus community for approximately 17,000 students; it offers 142 undergraduate degrees, 75 graduate degrees, 42 doctoral degrees, and a juris doctor in addition to a wide array of preprofessional tracks and specialized academic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, the university launched an ambitious academic strategic plan titled "Illuminate" to place Baylor on the path toward becoming the state's next tier one research institution while maintaining its historic Texas Baptist roots and focusing on such critical areas as health, materials science, data sciences, human flourishing and ethics, and Latin America; and

WHEREAS, Baylor University is also home to a variety of exceptional athletic programs; its football team recently won the 2018 Texas Bowl, and the women's basketball team continued its dominance with its eighth consecutive sweep of regular season and conference tournament titles while reaching the NCAA tournament; in addition, the acrobatics and tumbling team won its fourth straight NCATA national title; and

WHEREAS, Baylor athletics has led the Big 12 with its graduation success rate over the past four years, and during the spring 2018 semester, the department extended its run to 20 consecutive semesters with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher; moreover, student athletes have dedicated more than 1,500 volunteer hours to serving the Waco community; and

WHEREAS, The school's outstanding academic and athletic programs, combined with a faculty dedicated to teaching and scholarship, have served to create an institution with an international reputation for educational excellence, and it is indeed a pleasure to join in recognizing Baylor University for its myriad achievements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize February 12, 2019, as Baylor Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.