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By:  E. Johnson of Dallas H.R. No. 358

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Mike A. Myers, owner and chair of Myers Financial Corporation, was presented with the Santa Rita Award by The University of Texas System Board of Regents on December 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, The highest honor bestowed by the UT Regents, the Santa Rita Award is earned by individuals who have demonstrated concern for the principles of higher education, as well as deep commitment to the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of The University of Texas System; and

WHEREAS, A native of the small town of Olney, Mike Myers learned from his parents the value of hard work and the fulfillment that can be found in helping others; after first attending Tarleton State College in Stephenville, he transferred to UT Austin, where he excelled academically while making his first foray into entrepreneurship as the owner of a restaurant and catering business; he received his bachelor's degree in 1959 and his law degree in 1963 before taking his first job in the office of Governor John Connally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Myers expanded his business interests to encompass community banking, real estate development, and country club ownership, and today he operates Myers Financial Corporation alongside Myers Bancshares, Inc., the holding company of the oldest and largest continually owned independent bank in Tarrant County; he is also a cofounder and majority partner in The University of Texas Golf Club in Austin, which has hosted the UT men's and women's golf teams since 2003; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Mr. Myers has been a faithful and dedicated supporter of his alma mater, providing numerous endowments for the McCombs School of Business, the Moody College of Communication, the Colleges of Education, Liberal Arts, and Natural Sciences, the Office of the Provost, and several graduate studies programs; he contributed to the expansion and modernization of the Darrell K. Royal Texas Memorial Stadium, and he and his wife, Sammye Myers, helped establish what is now known as the Mike A. Myers Stadium and Soccer Field; he is cofounder of the Foundation for Texas Excellence Scholars, and he has further served as president of the Longhorn Foundation and as chair of the UT System Chancellor's Council; over the years, he has shared his time, expertise, and resources to benefit other institutions within the UT system, particularly UT Southwestern, which he served with distinction as a trustee of the Southwestern Medical Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Since forming his charitable foundation at the age of 29, Mr. Myers has made additional contributions in behalf of education and other causes, and he played a notable role in the creation of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; in 1990, he initiated the Myers-LeCroy Scholars Endowed Scholarship program at the Dallas County Community College District Foundation, and he was also instrumental in instituting the Rising Star Program at DCCCD; moreover, he has donated generously to Parkland Memorial Hospital's Simmons Ambulatory Surgical Center and the "I Stand for Parkland" campaign, for which a sky bridge was dedicated in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Other organizations that have benefited from his volunteer involvement include the Dallas Assembly, the Dallas Citizens Council, the Texas Longhorn Education Foundation, and the Cotton Bowl Athletic Association; he currently serves as director of the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation and as a trustee emeritus of the UT Law School Foundation, through which he helped create the Kay Bailey Hutchison Chair in Latin American Law; he was named the DFW Entrepreneur of the Year in 2017 and was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame in 2008; in addition, he has been recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus of UT Austin and as a member of the McCombs School of Business Hall of Fame, and he received UT's coveted Presidential Citation; and

WHEREAS, Few alumni can claim such a commendable record of leadership and service to their alma mater as Mike Myers, and this accomplished businessman, philanthropist, and community leader may indeed take well-deserved pride in all that he has achieved; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Mike A. Myers on his receipt of a Santa Rita Award from The University of Texas System Board of Regents and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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