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By:  Rosenthal H.R. No. 1547

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Rapper, DJ, and entrepreneur Paul Wall of Houston has earned the nickname "the People's Champ" through his success as an independent musician and his tireless efforts in behalf of underprivileged communities; and

WHEREAS, Each summer, Mr. Wall sponsors a back-to-school backpack donation program to encourage enthusiasm for a new year of learning; he also organizes annual holiday toy drives, and he partners with the group Parents Against Predators to host a Christmas party for children in need; for three years, he and PAP have also worked together to produce a middle school anti-bullying tour; in addition, he and his wife, Crystal, collected supplies and other donations for people affected in the wake of Hurricane Harvey; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wall began making his mark in the music business in 1999 as a mixtape star; in 2005, his album *People's Champ* debuted at No. 1 on *Billboard* magazine's Top 200 chart, and it raced to platinum status; he has collaborated with many prominent performers, from Snoop Dogg and Devin the Dude to fellow H-Town icons such as Z-Ro, Chamillionaire, and Slim Thug; moreover, he has served the state's music industry as a governor and trustee of the Texas Chapter of the Recording Academy; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, Mr. Wall and his business partner, jeweler Johnny Dang, were at the forefront of the grillz fashion accessory craze, and Mr. Wall gave the trend an extra boost by collaborating with Nelly and others on the Grammy-nominated hit "Grillz"; today, his upscale jewelry store is patronized by many celebrities; and

WHEREAS, Paul Wall has earned the respect and admiration of innumerable people through his professional accomplishments and good works, and he exemplifies the dynamism of the Bayou City; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize May 15, 2019, as the People's Champ Day and commend Paul Wall for his many achievements; and, be it further

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