

By: Bonnen of Brazoria

H.R. No. 777

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lisa Helfman has demonstrated an exceptional
2 commitment to the well-being of young Texans as the founder and
3 chair of Brighter Bites; and

4 WHEREAS, A nonprofit organization, Brighter Bites promotes
5 healthy eating habits among children and their families through an
6 evidence-based, multicomponent program in schools, preschools, and
7 summer camps; it was created by Ms. Helfman in 2012 through a
8 collaborative partnership between the Houston Food Bank and
9 Dr. Shreela Sharma at The University of Texas School of Public
10 Health; and

11 WHEREAS, Brighter Bites provides produce and in-class
12 nutrition education to underserved communities in Austin, Dallas,
13 Houston, New York, southwest Florida, and Washington, D.C.; since
14 its inception, it has donated more than 20 million pounds of fruits
15 and vegetables to more than 240 schools and camps; giving people
16 healthier options encourages them to make better food choices, and
17 98 percent of the participants increased their consumption of fresh
18 produce during the program season, with 74 percent maintaining the
19 higher level following its conclusion; Brighter Bites received the
20 2018 Partnership for a Healthier America Impact Award and the 2016
21 Texas Health Champion Award; and

22 WHEREAS, In her professional life, Lisa Helfman is director
23 of real estate for the H-E-B Grocery Company; previously, as
24 director of real estate services at Texas Children's Hospital, she

1 centralized the institution's real estate operations; she began her
2 career as an attorney with Vinson & Elkins, representing urban
3 redevelopment clients, nonprofits, and government entities in
4 financing deals, real estate, and other matters; a magna cum laude
5 graduate of the University of Houston Law Center, she earned her
6 bachelor's degree from Tulane University; she has been named 2019
7 Humanitarian of the Year by the Houston-Galveston chapter of the
8 Albert Schweitzer Fellowship; and

9 WHEREAS, Through her outstanding contributions, Lisa Helfman
10 has enabled families across the country to enjoy the benefits of
11 healthier eating, and she is indeed deserving of this special
12 recognition; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
14 Legislature hereby honor Lisa Helfman for her work as founder and
15 chair of Brighter Bites and extend to her and this noteworthy
16 organization sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Ms. Helfman as an expression of high regard by the
20 Texas House of Representatives.