

By: Goodwin

H.R. No. 1293

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, One year after the rebuilding of its mosque in
2 Hudson Bend, the Islamic Center of Lake Travis has welcomed its
3 first full-time imam and is hosting its second Ramadan observance;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, A fire destroyed the first mosque on the site in
6 Hudson Bend in 2017, when it was still under construction; members
7 of all faiths came together in solidarity to support the Islamic
8 Center, and it began the rebuilding process; the new two-story
9 structure opened in May 2018 for its first Ramadan services; and

10 WHEREAS, The center serves as a social hub for the Muslim
11 community in the Lake Travis area, with upstairs and downstairs
12 prayer rooms, a nursery, space for children's religious
13 instruction, and an outdoor deck for celebrations; it has also
14 hosted a lecture series, food donations, and events of the
15 Interfaith Ambassadors of Lake Travis, a community group that it
16 helped form in the wake of the fire; and

17 WHEREAS, Mufti Mohamed-Umer Esmail began serving as imam of
18 the mosque in April 2019; born in Canada, he first earned teaching
19 certifications at the Institute for Islamic Studies in Dewsbury in
20 the United Kingdom and went on to secure further credentials
21 through studies with world-renowned scholars in Karachi, Pakistan;
22 he has served as the imam of the North Austin Muslim Community
23 Center, as spiritual advisor for the Austin Chapter of the Muslim
24 Youth of North America, and as imam of the Nueces Mosque serving The

1 University of Texas community; and

2 WHEREAS, The Islamic Center of Lake Travis provides
3 fellowship, guidance, and inspiration to all who gather there, and
4 it is indeed fitting to honor this notable house of worship as it
5 marks these significant milestones; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
7 Legislature hereby honor the Islamic Center of Lake Travis on the
8 occasion of the first anniversary of its rebuilding and its second
9 Ramadan observance and extend sincere best wishes to Mufti
10 Mohamed-Umer Esmail as he begins his tenure as imam; and, be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the center as an expression of high regard by the Texas
14 House of Representatives.