

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Legendary Texas journalist R. G. Ratcliffe is
2 retiring from *Texas Monthly* magazine in 2019, drawing to a close a
3 remarkable four-decade career covering state and national
4 politics; and

5 WHEREAS, Raised in Dallas, Robert Gary Ratcliffe first saw
6 his name in print at the age of five, when he got behind the wheel of
7 his mother's car and drove it into a house, an episode that became a
8 national wire service story; he subsequently focused on covering
9 the news rather than making it, and he honed his skills as a student
10 radio reporter at the University of Missouri while earning a degree
11 in journalism and American history; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Ratcliffe spent the early years of his career in
13 Georgia and Florida, and it was during that period that he developed
14 an interest in political journalism after conducting investigative
15 reporting on elected officials who took bribes from Colombian drug
16 lords; he also covered the trial of serial killer Ted Bundy for the
17 *Florida Times-Union*; returning to Texas, he worked briefly in the
18 Arlington bureau of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* before relocating
19 to Austin; after initially covering events in the capital city for
20 the *Star-Telegram*, he spent 24 years as a reporter for the *Houston*
21 *Chronicle*; in 2011, he started writing for *Texas Monthly*, and he
22 joined the magazine's permanent staff in 2017; and

23 WHEREAS, Over the course of his 40 years in journalism,
24 Mr. Ratcliffe has covered six Texas governors, from Bill Clements

1 to Greg Abbott, as well as every national presidential race from
2 1988 to 2008; along the way, he also reported on the 1985 Mexico
3 City earthquake, chronicled the tectonic shift from Democratic to
4 Republican dominance in Texas politics, and authored an
5 investigative story about University of Texas management company
6 investments that has been used in teaching journalism classes at
7 Columbia University; he even got to enjoy a moment in the limelight
8 when he was featured in the HBO documentary *Journeys with George*,
9 about the 2000 presidential campaign; and

10 WHEREAS, By dedicating himself to the mission of holding
11 elected officials accountable for their actions, R. G. Ratcliffe
12 has earned a well-deserved reputation as one of the best political
13 reporters in Texas and throughout the nation, and his sharp
14 intellect, keen insight, and dry wit will be greatly missed by all
15 those who have had the good fortune to appreciate his work; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
18 Legislature hereby congratulate R. G. Ratcliffe on his retirement
19 from *Texas Monthly* and extend to him sincere best wishes for
20 continued success and happiness; and, be it further

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

Raymond

Bonnen of Brazoria	Guerra	Noble
Allen	Guillen	Oliverson
Allison	Gutierrez	Ortega
Anchia	Harless	Pacheco
Anderson	Harris	Paddie
Ashby	Hefner	Parker
Bailes	Hernandez	Patterson
Beckley	Herrero	Paul
Bell of Kaufman	Hinojosa	Perez
Bell of Montgomery	Holland	Phelan
Bernal	Howard	Price
Biedermann	Huberty	Ramos
Blanco	Hunter	Raney
Bohac	Israel	Raymond
Bonnen of Galveston	E. Johnson of Dallas	Reynolds
Bowers	J. Johnson of Dallas	Rodriguez
Buckley	Johnson of Harris	Romero, Jr.
Bucy	Kacal	Rose
Burns	King of Hemphill	Rosenthal
Burrows	King of Parker	Sanford
Button	King of Uvalde	Schaefer
Cain	Klick	Shaheen
Calanni	Krause	Sheffield
Canales	Kuempel	Sherman, Sr.
Capriglione	Lambert	Shine
Clardy	Landgraf	Smith
Cole	Lang	Smithee
Coleman	Larson	Springer
Collier	Leach	Stephenson
Cortez	Leman	Stickland
Craddick	Longoria	Stucky
Cyrrier	Lopez	Swanson
Darby	Lozano	Talarico
Davis of Dallas	Lucio III	Thierry
Davis of Harris	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dean	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Deshotel	Metcalf	Tinderholt
Dominguez	Meyer	Toth
Dutton	Meza	Turner of Dallas
Farrar	Middleton	Turner of Tarrant
Fierro	Miller	VanDeaver
Flynn	Minjarez	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morales	White
Geren	Morrison	Wilson
Gervin-Hawkins	Muñoz, Jr.	Wray
Goldman	Murphy	Wu
González of Dallas	Murr	Zedler
González of El Paso	Neave	Zerwas
Goodwin	Nevárez	Zwiener

H.R. No. 2171

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2171 was adopted by the House on May 26, 2019, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House