

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 322

**WHEREAS**, Locally owned and operated restaurants add flavor and diversity to the communities of Texas, and in February 2019, 24 Karrots is celebrating its grand opening as the first vegan café in Kilgore; and

**WHEREAS**, This unique eatery is owned and operated by Sumeyye Samento and her daughter, Desiree Samford; formerly a private chef in California, Ms. Samento moved to Kilgore to study in the Culinary Arts program at Kilgore College; a vegan for 15 years, Ms. Samento began developing vegan versions of popular baked goods for her friends, including cakes and French toast, and she started selling them through local outlets; and

**WHEREAS**, On Valentine's Day 2019, Ms. Samento and Ms. Samford held a soft opening of 24 Karrots, with the enthusiastic assistance of Ms. Samford's five-year-old daughter, Evonáe Alda; starting with cinnamon rolls and other pastries, the café's menu is entirely plant-based and features locally sourced organic ingredients, and Ms. Samento and Ms. Samford plan to continue introducing a variety of new fare; and

**WHEREAS**, By offering the residents of Kilgore a unique selection of healthy and delicious vegan dishes, 24 Karrots is contributing to the prosperity and cultural richness of its community, and it is indeed a pleasure to recognize Ms. Samento and Ms. Samford for their creativity and entrepreneurship; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby congratulate Sumeyye Samento and Desiree Samford on the grand opening of 24 Karrots and extend to them sincere best wishes for success; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Ms. Samento and Ms. Samford as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

Hughes

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 5, 2019.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate