H.R. No. 253

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, LGBTQIA+ communities across the state have greatly benefited from the dedicated efforts of Ricardo Martinez, who currently serves as chief executive officer of Equality Texas; and

WHEREAS, A native of Mexico, Mr. Martinez became the first Latinx man to lead Equality Texas in 2019, and he has since worked tirelessly to advance the organization's mission of ending discrimination against LGBTQIA+ communities; in performing his duties as chief executive officer, he has drawn on a wealth of experience with nonprofit fundraising, organizing, advocacy, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Prior to joining Equality Texas, Mr. Martinez helped countless students through his work with PENCIL and Summer Search; he went on to become senior manager of field services at GLSEN before being named president of the organization's chapter in Phoenix, Arizona; in that role, he contributed significantly to a movement that resulted in the repeal of an Arizona law prohibiting LGBTQIA+ representation, content, and history in school curriculum; he further distinguished himself as national director for constituent engagement at Stand for Children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Martinez has been honored for his leadership in the LGBTQIA+ community by the Barack Obama administration, and he was awarded a 40 Under Forty award from Stony Brook University in 2019; he holds a bachelor's degree in political science and history from Stony Brook and a master's degree in nonprofit management from the New School; and

WHEREAS, Ricardo Martinez has demonstrated a deep commitment to building a better future for LGBTQIA+ communities in Texas and beyond, and he may indeed reflect with pride on his many noteworthy accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Ricardo Martinez for his service to LGBTQIA+ communities and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success in his important work; and, be it further

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

González of El Paso

González of Dallas

Zwiener

Johnson of Dallas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 253 was adopted by the House on October 18, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House