

By: González of El Paso

H.R. No. 253

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Martinez has been honored for his leadership in
21 the LGBTQIA+ community by the Barack Obama administration, and he
22 was awarded a 40 Under Forty award from Stony Brook University in
23 2019; he holds a bachelor's degree in political science and history
24 from Stony Brook and a master's degree in nonprofit management from

1 the New School; and

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

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

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