

By: González of El Paso

H.R. No. 270

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Jessica Shortall of Dallas has rendered exceptional
2 service to the LGBTQIA+ communities in Texas and beyond through her
3 tireless advocacy work; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Shortall is the founding managing director of
5 Texas Competes, a partnership of business owners, industry
6 associations, and chambers of commerce; the organization helps
7 ensure the fair treatment of LGBTQIA+ workers and families, opposes
8 discriminatory policies, and strives to make the state more
9 economically competitive by promoting inclusiveness; the
10 organization is a model for America Competes, an entity also
11 directed by Ms. Shortall, that provides entrepreneurs with
12 information, legislative analysis, and other resources so that they
13 can advocate for equal opportunity for the members of the LGBTQIA+
14 communities; and

15 WHEREAS, The daughter of Venezuelan and English immigrants,
16 Ms. Shortall formerly served with the Peace Corps in Uzbekistan,
17 and she cofounded the Campus Kitchens Project, a food rescue and
18 hunger relief nonprofit that is active in more than 50 cities in the
19 U.S.; moreover, she was the first director of giving at TOMS Shoes
20 and played a key role in building the company's One for One
21 charitable program; and

22 WHEREAS, Ms. Shortall earned a master of business
23 administration degree in 2006 from the University of Oxford, where
24 she was a Skoll Scholar in social entrepreneurship; she also works

1 as a strategy consultant, and in all her endeavors she enjoys the
2 love and support of her husband, Clay, and her two children; and

3 WHEREAS, By defending the rights of those who are
4 marginalized, Jessica Shortall is helping to build a more just,
5 open, and diverse society for all Americans, and she may indeed take
6 great pride in her many achievements; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
8 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Jessica Shortall
9 for her dedicated advocacy in behalf of the LGBTQIA+ community in
10 Texas and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success
11 with her important work; and, be it further

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