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By:  Goldman H.R. No. 932

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, After 55 years of service to Paris Coffee Shop in Fort Worth, Mike Smith retired on April 16, 2021, and passed the iconic restaurant on to new ownership; and

WHEREAS, Mike Smith's father, Gregory K. Smith, purchased the restaurant at its original location south of downtown Fort Worth in the 1920s; during the 1960s, Mike Smith was working toward his master's degree in administrative management at the University of North Texas when his father fell ill, and he left college to take over the daily management of the restaurant; after the elder Mr. Smith died in 1971, Mike Smith succeeded him as its owner, and it has since grown and attracted a loyal clientele under his watch; and

WHEREAS, Paris Coffee Shop, an eatery renowned for its friendly, welcoming atmosphere, is best known for the dessert pies that Mr. Smith baked every day; for decades, the warm hospitality that he has extended to his customers has helped make the restaurant a beloved institution in Fort Worth, and he has enjoyed a special friendship and camaraderie with his regulars as well as with his more than two-dozen employees, whom he regards as his extended family; and

WHEREAS, Although Mike Smith's retirement is a bittersweet occasion for everyone at Paris Coffee Shop, it is a fitting reward for a man who has dedicated his heart and soul to the restaurant's success for more than a half century, and it is a pleasure to join his many admirers in bidding him a fond farewell; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Mike Smith on his well-deserved retirement as the owner of Paris Coffee Shop in Fort Worth and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

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