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By:  Martinez Fischer H.R. No. 1222

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Acclaimed chef Steve McHugh has made a positive impact in San Antonio through his charitable endeavors as well as through his contributions to the culinary scene; and

WHEREAS, A five-time James Beard Foundation Award finalist, Mr. McHugh grew up on a dairy farm in Wisconsin; his mother, a physician, treated patients without regard for their ability to pay, and as he has risen in his career, he has followed the example of generosity set by both his parents; and

WHEREAS, In high school, Mr. McHugh worked as a short-order cook; he attended college for a while on a music scholarship but changed direction, graduating from the Culinary Institute of America; for 14 years, he worked in top New Orleans eateries, rising to become executive chef at Restaurant August; he was tapped to launch a new upscale restaurant in San Antonio in 2009 and underwent treatment for non-Hodgkin lymphoma while getting Lüke up and running; soon thereafter, he got involved with Light the Night Walk, a major fundraiser for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; he later joined the board of the organization's South Texas chapter; in addition, he traveled to Bastrop County to cook for families displaced by wildfires; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McHugh opened his own charcuterie-focused establishment, Cured, in 2013, and created a program to donate funds and volunteer hours to worthy organizations; moreover, as the restaurant gained a national reputation, he used his growing fame to organize the annual "Cured for a Cure" fundraising dinner, featuring prominent chefs from across the region, and the event has raised tens of thousands of dollars for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; the Texas chapter of the National Restaurant Association recognized Cured with the Texas Restaurant Neighbor Award for its civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, Committed to the vitality of the Alamo City restaurant scene, Mr. McHugh opened a second destination for gastronomes, Landrace, in 2021; it highlights the bounty of South Texas and Hill Country farms; and

WHEREAS, While elevating San Antonio's place on the culinary map, Steve McHugh has also benefited the community through his good works, and he has earned the deep admiration and appreciation of his fellow citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby honor Steve McHugh for his contributions to San Antonio and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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