CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Austin Latino Coalition has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to supporting area residents during the COVID-19 pandemic and the accompanying economic crisis, as well as in the aftermath of Winter Storm Uri; and

WHEREAS, The unprecedented circumstances of the past year have placed immense burdens on our communities, including strains on health care resources, loss of jobs, business closures, and damage to homes, and members of the Austin Latino Coalition have set an inspiring example of civic leadership by continuing to serve others and working toward the greater good; in so doing, they have been a source of guidance and relief to many individuals; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 2013, the coalition unites the efforts of Latino organizations and individuals to promote civic engagement and self-determination; it has focused recent efforts on addressing the pandemic's disproportionate impact on the Latino community, and in the wake of Winter Storm Uri, its volunteers marked the 94th anniversary of the birth of civil rights leader Cesar Chavez by holding a day of action, distributing food, water, and personal protective equipment to some 1,000 families; and

WHEREAS, Since then, the Austin Latino Coalition has organized and supported many other important initiatives, including the distribution of food, water, household supplies, and personal protective equipment, as well as numerous COVID-19 vaccine distribution events in east and southeast Travis County; in
addition, members have drawn attention to health care disparities in the eastern crescent region of Austin, and through their advocacy and work, they have helped increase vaccine access for residents of underserved communities in the area, including those who may lack Internet access or speak a primary language other than English; and

WHEREAS, The tireless dedication of the Austin Latino Coalition has made a positive difference in the lives of countless Texans during a time of crisis, and the organization is truly deserving of special recognition for its efforts; now, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby honor the Austin Latino Coalition for its outstanding service to the community and extend to its members sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

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