

By: A. Johnson of Harris

H.R. No. 167

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For the past five years, the Greater Houston LGBT
2 Chamber of Commerce has been a voice and an advocate for lesbian,
3 gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer + business owners in the
4 Houston area; and

5 WHEREAS, Established on February 24, 2016, the chamber has
6 dedicated itself from the start to building a strong network of
7 businesses and to promoting economic inclusion and equality; an
8 affiliate of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce, the Houston
9 affiliate was founded by Tammi Wallace and Gary Wood, and it
10 continues to benefit from the able leadership of Ms. Wallace, who
11 serves as president and CEO; and

12 WHEREAS, Among its many initiatives, the Chamber empowers
13 LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs through connection and community, sponsorship
14 offerings, volunteer opportunities, and numerous events, such as
15 Brewing Up Business, the Biz Connect Mixer, and Pride in Business;
16 furthermore, it connects its members with the LGBTBE®
17 Certification program, which provides access to a national network
18 and valuable resources and economic opportunities; and

19 WHEREAS, In addition to its work with businesses, the Chamber
20 has made outstanding contributions to the wider LGBTQ+ community;
21 as one of four members of the Texas LGBTQ Chambers of Commerce, it
22 advocates for legislation that supports inclusion and opposes
23 discrimination; moreover, the group established the Chamber
24 Foundation in 2020 to advance its charitable and educational

1 objectives and to address economic inequality through various
2 projects, including an annual holiday food drive; and

3 WHEREAS, By empowering LGBTQ+ businesses and their allies,
4 the Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce is working to develop a
5 supportive, diverse, and prosperous environment throughout the
6 region; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
8 Legislature hereby honor the Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of
9 Commerce on the occasion of its fifth anniversary and extend to all
10 those associated with the organization sincere best wishes for
11 continued success; and, be it further

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