

By: J. Johnson of Harris

H.R. No. 304

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, By demonstrating strong and effective leadership,
2 Houston mayor Sylvester Turner has played a significant role in
3 guiding his community's response to Winter Storm Uri; and

4 WHEREAS, From February 14 through 19, 2021, Winter Storm Uri
5 brought heavy snow, ice, and bitterly cold temperatures to the city
6 of Houston; before the storm's arrival, Mayor Turner directed
7 resources toward preparing the city's infrastructure and conducted
8 daily news wire briefings from the Office of Emergency Management
9 with advice to citizens on how to protect themselves and their
10 property, and he converted a local convention center into a warming
11 shelter for people experiencing homelessness; while the storm
12 preparations and response were underway, Mayor Turner also
13 continued to lead the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and
14 provide guidance to the Houston Health Department's vaccination
15 program; and

16 WHEREAS, The winter storm resulted in massive power outages
17 that affected millions of households across the state, and in
18 Houston, a boil water advisory was issued due to water shortages and
19 low water pressure levels caused by the extreme weather; for
20 several days as the crisis continued, Mayor Turner organized the
21 distribution of nearly three million bottles of water, and he also
22 coordinated with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities
23 and the Mayor's Health Equity Response Task Force to deliver food,
24 water, and other supplies to vulnerable individuals and families;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Mayor Turner has used his platform to inform
3 Houstonians about the underlying causes of the disaster; he has
4 gone on to initiate a city council measure that would keep customers
5 from being hit with high water bills due to water leaks and burst
6 pipes, and he worked alongside Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo to
7 create the Houston Harris County Winter Storm Relief Fund, which
8 has raised more than \$7 million to help cover the cost of repairing
9 damage to homes caused by the storm; and

10 WHEREAS, Mayor Sylvester Turner has set a commendable example
11 of public service during a challenging time for Texas' largest
12 city, and he is deserving of special recognition for all that he has
13 done to lessen the human impact and expedite Houston's recovery
14 from this historic weather event; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
16 Legislature hereby honor Mayor Sylvester Turner for his leadership
17 during Winter Storm Uri and extend to him sincere best wishes for
18 the future; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Mayor Turner as an expression of high regard by the
21 Texas House of Representatives.