SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 323

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Joe Haliti of Joe's Italian Restaurant in Montgomery County for his generous community service during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Joe's Italian Restaurant was one of the many restaurants to close its dining space in the early days of the pandemic; as owner Joe Haliti managed a limited curbside service, his heart went out to busy first responders and health care workers in the region who might have trouble getting food easily without the risk of exposure to the virus; and

WHEREAS, Joe worked with his brother and nephew to devise a plan during the initial wave of the pandemic, and with the generous support of community members, his restaurant was able to prepare and distribute 25,000 meals to frontline workers; the popular restaurant resumed its mission during the summer spike in COVID-19 cases and was able to prepare and donate more than 50,000 meals; this second round of meals extended the restaurant's outreach to include first responders and vulnerable community members in Montgomery, Harris, Jefferson, and Walker Counties; and

WHEREAS, Texans are known for their generous hearts and spirits; Joe Haliti and his crew of volunteers have exemplified the highest ideals of charitable service in a time of crisis, and they are indeed deserving of recognition for their generous support of Texas' first responders and of others in need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby recognize Joe Haliti as a treasured citizen and commend him and all who helped Joe's Italian Restaurant to donate nourishing meals to frontline workers and vulnerable citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Joe Haliti as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Creighton

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 27, 2021.

Secretary of the Senate