

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 234

WHEREAS, Students, faculty, staff, alumni, administrators, and members of the board of regents from the University of Houston are visiting Austin on March 2, 2023, to participate in University of Houston Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, The Tier One campus is located in the nation's fourth-largest city, within a region that is home to a quarter of the state's population and that generates nearly a third of the state's gross product; the student body, numbering more than 46,000, including many first-generation college students, mirrors the rich cultural tapestry of Houston; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the university awards over 10,000 degrees in 277 undergraduate and graduate academic programs; it now counts more than 326,000 alumni, many of whom stay in Texas, where they contribute to the success of our communities and state; and

WHEREAS, In the 16th year under the leadership of chancellor and president Renu Khator, the University of Houston has set its sights on being ranked among our country's top 50 public universities, which will be achieved as a result of rapidly improving graduation rates, the ability to improve the social mobility of its students, and the recognition of the research excellence of its faculty; and

WHEREAS, The Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine, established after the passage of H.B. 826 during the 86th Texas Legislative Session, was founded on a social mission to improve health in underserved communities in Houston and across Texas; the college emphasizes the importance primary care plays in the health of all Texans, especially in urban and rural communities, and it has already enrolled its third cohort of students, with a total of 120 future doctors; and

WHEREAS, The university is home to nine nationally funded research centers and 28 university research centers and institutes, and it has spent over \$200 million in research expenditures annually, mainly in the critical areas of cyber and national security, drug discovery and development, sustainable communities and infrastructure, and accessible health care; and

WHEREAS, The University of Houston athletics competes in 17 different sports with more than 400 student-athletes; several of the athletic teams have represented the university on the national stage, including the Cougar men's basketball team led by head coach Kelvin Sampson that has advanced to three NCAA Sweet Sixteen tournaments in a row and competed in the Final Four in 2021; the 2022-2023 team earned a No. 1 ranking in the country for the first time since the Phi Slama Jama era in the early 1980s; beginning in the summer of 2023, Houston will compete in a Power 5 conference after its acceptance to join the Big 12 Conference; and

WHEREAS, For nearly a century, the University of Houston has contributed significantly to creating generation after generation of productive and responsible citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby recognize March 2, 2023, as University of Houston Day at the State Capitol and extend to all participants sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable visit.

Miles

Alvarado Bettencourt	Creighton Huffman	Middleton Whitmire
Member, Texas Senate	Member, Texas Senate	
Member, Texas Senate	Member, Texas Senate	
Member, Texas Senate	Member, Texas Senate	
	Member, Texas Senate	
	President of the Senate	
	I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 1, 2023.	
	Secretary of the Senate	