

By: Miles, et al.

S.R. No. 234

R E S O L U T I O N

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

5 WHEREAS, The Tier One campus is located in the nation's
6 fourth-largest city, within a region that is home to a quarter of
7 the state's population and that generates nearly a third of the
8 state's gross product; the student body, numbering more than
9 46,000, including many first-generation college students, mirrors
10 the rich cultural tapestry of Houston; and

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

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

22 WHEREAS, The Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine,
23 established after the passage of H.B. 826 during the 86th Texas
24 Legislative Session, was founded on a social mission to improve

1 health in underserved communities in Houston and across Texas; the
2 college emphasizes the importance primary care plays in the health
3 of all Texans, especially in urban and rural communities, and it has
4 already enrolled its third cohort of students, with a total of 120
5 future doctors; and

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

12 WHEREAS, The University of Houston athletics competes in 17
13 different sports with more than 400 student-athletes; several of
14 the athletic teams have represented the university on the national
15 stage, including the Cougar men's basketball team led by head coach
16 Kelvin Sampson that has advanced to three NCAA Sweet Sixteen
17 tournaments in a row and competed in the Final Four in 2021; the
18 2022-2023 team earned a No. 1 ranking in the country for the first
19 time since the Phi Slama Jama era in the early 1980s; beginning in
20 the summer of 2023, Houston will compete in a Power 5 conference
21 after its acceptance to join the Big 12 Conference; and

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

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
26 hereby recognize March 2, 2023, as University of Houston Day at the
27 State Capitol and extend to all participants sincere best wishes

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1 for an informative and enjoyable visit.