

By: Cole

H.R. No. 24

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas lost an iconic pitmaster with the  
2 passing of John Brotherton on January 15, 2024, at the age of 49;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Liberty, Mr. Brotherton studied at Sam  
5 Houston State University in Huntsville, and early in his career, he  
6 worked a number of jobs in Austin; he developed a deep passion for  
7 cooking and for smoking barbecue, and he honed his skills while  
8 operating the Hall of Flame food truck, which opened in  
9 Pflugerville in 2011; two years later, he partnered with another  
10 food truck owner, Jay Yates, to establish a brick-and-mortar  
11 restaurant, Curly's Carolina, TX, in Round Rock; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Brotherton went on to found a smoked meats  
13 pop-up and catering business, Brotherton Barbecue, in 2015, and he  
14 later began cooking for his friend Kelly Gerry's restaurant, Black  
15 Iron Eats, in Pflugerville; the pair merged their businesses to  
16 form Brotherton's Black Iron Barbecue in 2017, and under  
17 Mr. Brotherton's able leadership, the restaurant attracted loyal  
18 customers from far and wide; among his many achievements, he helped  
19 the restaurant to earn a place on multiple barbecue lists compiled  
20 by *Texas Monthly*, including the magazine's "50 Best BBQ Joints"  
21 ranking in 2021; and

22 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Brotherton enjoyed the  
23 love and support of his wife, Brenda, and he took great pride in  
24 their son, Braeden; and

1           WHEREAS, John Brotherton earned the admiration of all who  
2   knew him, not only for his success as a restaurateur and businessman  
3   but also for his exceptional warmth and generosity, and he leaves  
4   behind a legacy that will resonate for years to come; now,  
5   therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
7   Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of John Brotherton and  
8   extend heartfelt sympathy to all who mourn his passing; and, be it  
9   further

10          RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11   prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
12   Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John  
13   Brotherton.