

R E S O L U T I O N

1        WHEREAS, Ivy L. Walls of Houston is being honored with a 2025  
2 Outstanding Texan Award from the Texas Legislative Black Caucus;  
3 and

4        WHEREAS, The owner of Ivy Leaf Farms, Ms. Walls is dedicated  
5 to improving the health of her fellow Sunnyside residents; she  
6 became a third-generation farmer after earning her bachelor's  
7 degree in biology from Prairie View A&M University and beginning a  
8 career in the medical field; during the COVID-19 pandemic, she was  
9 employed as an infection preventionist by the Memorial Hermann  
10 Health System; she understood the importance of good nutrition in  
11 battling illness and recognized a serious need in Sunnyside, a  
12 USDA-designated food desert in which few residents had ready access  
13 to a grocery store with fresh produce; and

14        WHEREAS, Ms. Walls started growing vegetables in her  
15 parents' backyard to give to neighbors; finding great satisfaction  
16 in that endeavor, she began cultivating five acres owned by her  
17 parents and quit her job to establish Ivy Leaf Farms in 2020; using  
18 her entrepreneurial skills, she launched a GoFundMe on social  
19 media; she also received a \$10,000 grant from a joint initiative by  
20 Beyoncé Knowles-Carter and the NAACP; building community  
21 connections, the farm hosts events and offers opportunities for  
22 neighbors to get in touch with nature and learn about sustainable  
23 growing practices and nutrient-dense foods; in addition, staff  
24 members visit schools to help set up community gardens that will

H.R. No. 621

1 encourage interest in agriculture among the next generation;  
2 Ms. Walls cofounded Black Farmer Box, which provides locally  
3 sourced produce to food desert residents, and then Fresh Houwse  
4 Grocery, a bodega-style business that features the products of  
5 local farmers and serves as a neighborhood gathering place; and

6 WHEREAS, Through her vision and commitment to improving the  
7 well-being of her fellow Houstonians, Ivy Walls has set an  
8 inspiring example of civic-minded entrepreneurship, and she is  
9 indeed deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby congratulate Ivy L. Walls on her receipt of a  
12 2025 Outstanding Texan Award from the Texas Legislative Black  
13 Caucus and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be  
14 it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for Ms. Walls as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
17 House of Representatives.

Simmons

H.R. No. 621

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 621 was adopted by the House on April 17, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 130, Nays 10, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House