

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in
2 Houston is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2025; and

3 WHEREAS, The music department at Rice University was
4 initially funded in 1950 by Sallie Shepherd Perkins, who
5 established an endowment for the school in honor of her
6 grandfather, Benjamin A. Shepherd; the Shepherd School of Music was
7 founded in 1974, and since opening its doors a year later, it has
8 become one of the nation's premier music programs; and

9 WHEREAS, With a limited student body of 275, the Shepherd
10 School provides individualized instruction from world-class
11 faculty, and it offers degrees in orchestral performance, chamber
12 music, voice and opera studies, piano, organ, composition, and
13 musicology; its alumni have won Pulitzer Prizes and Grammy Awards,
14 debuted at Carnegie Hall, and secured positions with prestigious
15 orchestras and opera companies across the globe; and

16 WHEREAS, Each year, the Shepherd School hosts more than 400
17 free concerts and recitals, drawing approximately 70,000
18 attendees, and it has welcomed numerous world-renowned classical
19 musicians for performances and master classes; it is ably guided by
20 Dean Matthew Loden, who brings to the role a wealth of experience in
21 performing and teaching; and

22 WHEREAS, Over the course of half a century, the Shepherd
23 School of Music has given its students a strong foundation on which
24 to build a successful career in music, and it is indeed a pleasure

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1 to join in marking this significant milestone in its history; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
4 Legislature hereby congratulate the Shepherd School of Music at
5 Rice University on its 50th anniversary and extend to all those
6 associated with the school sincere best wishes for continued
7 success; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas
10 House of Representatives.

Johnson

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 779 was adopted by the House on April 17, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 131, Nays 9, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House