

By: Bell of Montgomery

H.R. No. 1493

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Throughout the 89th Legislative Session, State
2 Representative Cecil Bell Jr. has benefited immeasurably from the
3 outstanding work of his dedicated staff; and

4 WHEREAS, Travis Griffin has demonstrated exemplary
5 leadership during his two sessions as Chairman Bell's chief of
6 staff; he has served with the Texas Legislature for 11 legislative
7 sessions, including six as a chief of staff with the House of
8 Representatives; he previously acted as political director of the
9 Republican Party of Texas and as the first executive director of the
10 Innovation & Technology Caucus of the Texas House; in 2025, he is
11 marking 27 years in public service and political engagement; and

12 WHEREAS, Amy Rister has worked tirelessly to run the House
13 Intergovernmental Affairs Committee as Chairman Bell's committee
14 director; during her nine legislative session with the House, she
15 has served as chief of staff for four members and as director of
16 multiple committees; she has also used her clerking expertise at
17 Texas GOP conventions, and she volunteers with the Junior League
18 and holds the role of vice president for the Capitol Republican
19 Women; in August, she will be graduating with a master of
20 jurisprudence degree from Texas A&M University School of Law; and

21 WHEREAS, Returning for his second session on Chairman Bell's
22 staff, legislative director John Durr has provided invaluable
23 support by undertaking a wide variety of challenging tasks,
24 including constituency services and policy analysis; a native of

1 Austin, he has worked for the Texas Legislature for seven sessions,
2 including four with the House of Representatives; and

3 WHEREAS, Having previously worked in Chairman Bell's office
4 during the 85th Legislative Session, district director Nira Miller
5 returned for the 88th and continues to play a vital role in managing
6 the representative's district office; a former congressional
7 staffer, she has also worked on congressional campaigns and
8 coordinated media relations for think tanks, government agencies,
9 and nonprofits; and

10 WHEREAS, In his first legislative session, Eric Parikakis has
11 served as assistant committee clerk to the House Intergovernmental
12 Affairs Committee; a native of Plano, he is the policy director of
13 the Texas Young Republicans; he is a graduate of Texas Christian
14 University and The University of Texas at Dallas; and

15 WHEREAS, Quintin Lorenz joined Chairman Bell's staff this
16 session as an administrative and legislative aide, playing an
17 invaluable role in ensuring the smooth operation of both
18 legislative and administrative functions; a proud native of the Rio
19 Grande Valley and a Texas State University alumnus, he is committed
20 to advancing the Republican cause in Texas, whether by helping to
21 grow his local Young Republican chapter, by working for an office,
22 or by volunteering on the campaign trail; and

23 WHEREAS, Two remarkable interns from The University of Texas
24 at Austin, Emma Corbell and Connor Nihem, also served in the office
25 of Chairman Bell; their efforts have been invaluable, and they are
26 well prepared for success as they continue to pursue their academic
27 and professional dreams; and

1 WHEREAS, These esteemed public employees have performed
2 their duties with great skill and dedication, and they are indeed
3 deserving of special recognition for their fine work; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
6 Legislature hereby commend the staff of State Representative Cecil
7 Bell Jr. for their exemplary service and extend to them sincere best
8 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
10 for each member of the staff as an expression of high regard by the
11 Texas House of Representatives.