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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 279

Offered February 20, 2020

*Commending the Texas Tavern.*

Patrons—Rasoul, Austin, Head, Hurst and McNamara; Senators: Edwards and Suetterlein

WHEREAS, the Texas Tavern, the landmark eatery in Roanoke famous for its "chile," Cheesy Westerns, and charm, celebrates its 90th anniversary in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Tavern was opened on February 13, 1930, by Nick Bullington, an advance man for the Ringling Brothers Circus who acquired recipes for a short-order restaurant while traveling throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, since Nick Bullington opened the restaurant, it has been owned and operated by his son James, his grandson Jim, and his great-grandson Matt, a proud lineage that distinguishes the Texas Tavern; and

WHEREAS, for the past four generations, the Bullingtons have provided a home-away-from-home for countless hungry souls, from celebrities and politicians to first-timers and cherished regulars; and

WHEREAS, affectionately known as "Roanoke's Millionaires Club," Texas Tavern built its reputation by providing quality food and service to all, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Tavern, a piece of living history, still retains many of its original fixtures from nearly a century ago, offering its visitors a nostalgic and inviting step into the past; and

WHEREAS, beloved by the residents of Roanoke for years, the Texas Tavern has earned innumerable awards and distinctions from local newspapers and magazines, as well as lavish praise from the national media; and

WHEREAS, Texas Tavern's most recent accolade came from the Food Network, which declared the establishment the best diner in Virginia in 2019, confirming what its patrons had already known for years; and

WHEREAS, one "bowl with" at a time, the Texas Tavern has become an essential part of life in Roanoke and a prime reason why the city endears itself to its visitors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Texas Tavern, a Roanoke institution serving up bowls, burgers, and banter for years, on the occasion of its 90th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Matt Bullington, owner of the Texas Tavern, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the restaurant's contributions to Roanoke and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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