

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Jones Graduate School of Business at Rice
2 University in Houston celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2024; and

3 WHEREAS, Established in 1974 as the Jesse H. Jones Graduate
4 School of Management, the school received its initial funding from
5 Houston Endowment; its namesake, the founder of the endowment, was
6 a renowned entrepreneur and philanthropist who also benefited the
7 nation as the director of military relief for the American Red Cross
8 during World War I, as the chair of the Reconstruction Finance
9 Corporation during the Great Depression, and as the secretary of
10 commerce during World War II; in 1977, the Jones School's first
11 class matriculated with 23 students pursuing a master's degree in
12 business and public management and 32 students seeking a master's
13 degree in accounting, and the faculty included three full-time
14 faculty and four adjuncts; and

15 WHEREAS, The school gained accreditation in 1998, and through
16 the years, it has achieved numerous recognitions as a top business
17 school; ably guided since 2016 by Dean Peter Rodriguez, it
18 introduced Rice University's first online degree in 2018 and a
19 hybrid master of business administration program in 2023; since
20 launching in 2021, its undergraduate business major has quickly
21 become one of the most popular offerings at Rice; for the past five
22 years, the school's graduate entrepreneurship program has been
23 ranked No. 1 by The Princeton Review and *Entrepreneur* magazine; its
24 MBA program received the top rating from both the *Financial Times*

1 and *Bloomberg Businessweek* in 2023; and

2 WHEREAS, Over the course of a half century, the Jones
3 Graduate School of Business has provided nearly 10,000 students
4 with a strong foundation on which to build rewarding professional
5 careers, and it is indeed a pleasure to join in marking this
6 significant milestone in its history; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate the Jones Graduate School of
9 Business at Rice University on its 50th anniversary and extend to
10 all those associated with the school sincere best wishes for
11 continued success; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas
14 House of Representatives.

Johnson

H.R. No. 777

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 777 was adopted by the House on April 17, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 128, Nays 12, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House