

H.R. No. 777

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*

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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

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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