

By: Ramos

H.R. No. 59

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A rich and purposeful life drew to a close with the  
2 passing of Tonna Nan Taylor Duke on August 26, 2021, at the age of  
3 77; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Roy and Audrey Taylor, the former  
5 Tonna Taylor was born in Hope, Arkansas, on August 31, 1943, and  
6 grew up with a sister, Carol; she exchanged wedding vows with George  
7 Winston Duke, and they shared a rewarding marriage that spanned 57  
8 years until his passing in 2019; Mrs. Duke was the devoted mother of  
9 a daughter, Dee Ann, and she experienced the joy of welcoming a  
10 grandson, Cole, into her treasured family; and

11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Duke served as the girls' track and field coach  
12 and a health teacher at Richardson High School; during her tenure,  
13 she led her teams to many championships while instilling in her  
14 players valuable leadership skills; in 2000, she retired from the  
15 Richardson Independent School District as the assistant director of  
16 athletics; along the way, she also coached for International Sports  
17 Tours, taking elite-level, amateur athletes on competitive track  
18 and field trips throughout Europe; and

19 WHEREAS, Widely respected by her peers, Mrs. Duke held a  
20 number of important roles with the Texas Retired Teachers  
21 Association, including legislative chair and legislative  
22 coordinator; through her tireless work with TRTA, she served as a  
23 dedicated mentor and voice for her fellow educators; among her  
24 other affiliations, she was president of the Iota Nu chapter of

1 Delta Kappa Gamma and first vice president of the Richardson  
2 Woman's Club, which she further benefited as a member of the  
3 charitable foundation board; a woman of faith, she taught a Sunday  
4 school class, sang in two choirs, and was part of the prison  
5 ministry at First Baptist Richardson; and

6 WHEREAS, Generous and kindhearted, Tonna Duke made a  
7 meaningful difference in the lives of others, and she leaves behind  
8 a legacy that will continue to inspire all those who knew and loved  
9 her; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
11 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory  
12 of Tonna Nan Taylor Duke and extend sincere condolences to her  
13 relatives and friends; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Tonna Duke.