

By: Springer, Parker

S.R. No. 7

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The life of an esteemed state legislator has drawn
2 to a close with the passing of the Honorable Mary Craver Denny on
3 September 14, 2023, at the age of 75; and

4 WHEREAS, The former Mary Craver was born to Lois and Kenneth
5 Craver on July 9, 1948, and she was raised in Houston, where she was
6 a member of the Lamar High School Class of 1966; after attending The
7 University of Texas at Austin, she transferred to the University of
8 North Texas, graduating magna cum laude with degrees in elementary
9 education and mathematics; and

10 WHEREAS, Following her move to Denton, Ms. Denny was invited
11 to serve as the Republican precinct chair for her area, and she
12 chaired the Denton County Republican Party from 1983 until 1991;
13 the next year, she was elected to the Texas House of Representatives
14 for District 63, and she went on to serve her constituents for seven
15 terms, from 1993 to 2007; during her tenure, she was treasurer of
16 the House Republican Legislative Caucus, and she sat on numerous
17 committees, including those on elections, criminal jurisprudence,
18 financial institutions, agriculture and wildlife management, and
19 health and human services block grants; she further distinguished
20 herself as a board member for the Texas Conservative Coalition and
21 the Lone Star Leadership Foundation; and

22 WHEREAS, Through the years, Ms. Denny garnered a number of
23 accolades, including the Outstanding Texas Legislator Award, the
24 Common Cause Star of Service Award, and three Texas Eagle Forum

1 Freedom and Family Awards for her conservative voting record on
2 social and economic issues; she was also a four-time recipient of
3 both the Texas Ten Award and the Leader of Excellence Award from the
4 Free Enterprise PAC; civically engaged, she was appointed to the
5 University of North Texas Board of Regents, and she served on the
6 UNT President's Council and the UNT Foundation Board; she was
7 highly regarded for her work as a philanthropist and a community
8 volunteer, and she contributed her time and expertise to such
9 organizations as the Denton Benefit League, the United Way of
10 Denton County, and the City Federation of Women's Clubs; in
11 addition, she was involved with the Greater Denton Arts Council and
12 the Gaylord-Hughes Foundation; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Denny cherished time spent with her family,
14 which included her son, Bryan Denny, and his fiancée, Kelly
15 McCarty, her stepdaughter, Wenter Anderson, and her grandchildren,
16 McKenna and Christian Blair; her life was further enriched by her
17 wide circle of friends and by the companionship of her two beloved
18 dogs, Bishop and Gidget; and

19 WHEREAS, A stalwart champion of conservative Republican
20 values, Mary Denny served her fellow Texans with dedication,
21 integrity, and tenacity, and she leaves behind a legacy that will
22 long be treasured by those who were fortunate enough to know her;
23 now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 3rd
25 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Mary Craver Denny
26 and extend deepest condolences to all who mourn her passing; and, be
27 it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this
3 day, it do so in memory of the Honorable Mary Craver Denny.