

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The life of a legendary community leader and public
2 servant drew to a close with the passing of Ada Jean Edwards on
3 March 23, 2023, at the age of 80; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on January 7, 1943, Ada Edwards was raised by
5 her grandparents in San Diego, California; soon after moving to
6 Houston in 1979, she made a name for herself as the head of a
7 coalition of anti-apartheid protesters who persuaded the city and
8 the University of Houston to financially divest from South Africa;
9 she served as a field coordinator for the Harris County Democratic
10 Party in the 1990s, and she went on to cofound the AFL-CIO Community
11 Union Fund and to establish the Houston HIV/AIDS Action Coalition
12 and the Ida Delaney-Byron Gillum Justice Committee, which called
13 for greater police accountability; she also served on the boards of
14 organizations such as Mothers for Clean Air and the Joint City
15 County Commission on Children and Youth, in addition to hosting
16 news and public affairs talk shows on public radio; and

17 WHEREAS, Ms. Edwards made a successful bid for a seat on the
18 city council in 2001, and she represented District D for three
19 terms, from 2002 to 2008; over the course of her tenure, she chaired
20 council committees that addressed affordable housing, flooding
21 issues, and the HIV/AIDS epidemic; along the way, she demonstrated
22 a keen ability to communicate with people from both sides of the
23 aisle and to earn the trust of residents who had historically been
24 underrepresented, which helped make her a champion for the Third

1 Ward and Sunnyside neighborhoods and a powerful advocate for
2 progressive causes; following her tenure on the city council, she
3 continued to be active in civic affairs and was appointed by Mayor
4 Bill White to be the assistant director of Houston's Housing and
5 Community Development Department; and

6 WHEREAS, Blessed with a loving family, Ms. Edwards was
7 devoted to her 5 children and 11 grandchildren; her kind nature,
8 intellect, and sense of humor made her a joy to be around, and she
9 was a dear friend to many; and

10 WHEREAS, Ada Edwards devoted herself to the goal of making
11 Houston a better place for all, and her memory will be a continuing
12 source of inspiration in the years ahead; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ada Jean Edwards and
15 extend deepest condolences to her family and friends; and, be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ada
20 Edwards.

Thierry

Phelan	Guerra	Murr
Allen	Guillen	Neave Criado
Allison	Harless	Noble
Anchía	Harris of Anderson	Oliverson
Anderson	Harris of Williamson	Ordaz
Ashby	Harrison	Orr
Bailes	Hayes	Ortega
Bell of Kaufman	Hefner	Patterson
Bell of Montgomery	Hernandez	Paul
Bernal	Herrero	Perez
Bhojani	Hinojosa	Plesa
Bonnen	Holland	Price
Bowers	Howard	Ramos
Bryant	Hull	Raney
Buckley	Hunter	Raymond
Bucy	Isaac	Reynolds
Bumgarner	Jetton	Rogers
Burns	Johnson of Dallas	Romero, Jr.
Burrows	A. Johnson of Harris	Rose
Button	J. Johnson of Harris	Rosenthal
Cain	Jones of Dallas	Schaefer
Campos	Jones of Harris	Schatzline
Canales	Kacal	Schofield
Capriglione	King of Hemphill	Shaheen
Clardy	King of Uvalde	Sherman, Sr.
Cole	Kitzman	Shine
Collier	Klick	Slaton
Cook	Kuempel	Slawson
Cortez	Lalani	Smith
Craddick	Lambert	Smithee
Cunningham	Landgraf	Spiller
Darby	Leach	Stucky
Davis	Leo-Wilson	Swanson
Dean	Longoria	Talarico
DeAyala	Lopez of Bexar	Tepper
Dorazio	Lopez of Cameron	Thierry
Dutton	Lozano	Thimesch
Flores	Lujan	Thompson of Brazoria
Frank	Manuel	Thompson of Harris
Frazier	Martinez	Tinderholt
Gamez	Martinez Fischer	Toth
Garcia	Metcalf	Troxclair
Gates	Meyer	Turner
Gerdes	Meza	VanDeaver
Geren	Moody	Vasut
Gervin-Hawkins	Morales of Harris	Vo
Goldman	Morales of Maverick	Walle
González of Dallas	Morales Shaw	Wilson
González of El Paso	Morrison	Wu
Goodwin	Muñoz, Jr.	Zwiener

H.R. No. 897

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 897 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 3, 2023.

Chief Clerk of the House