

By: Davis

H.R. No. 1193

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to
2 a close with the passing of admired community leader Ruth Laverne
3 Wells Wyrick of Dallas on April 14, 2023, at the age of 88; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Waco on September 29, 1934, the former Ruth
5 Wells graduated from Southwestern Christian College; after moving
6 to Dallas, she met and married a fellow alumnus, Ernest "Deacon"
7 Wyrick, and they were blessed with two children, Narleski and
8 Natesha "Shay"; Mrs. Wyrick joined other parents in establishing
9 Christian Academy of Oak Cliff, where she was a member of the Parent
10 Teacher Organization and the Ladies Auxiliary for Christian
11 Education; an educator herself, she was employed by the Dallas
12 Independent School District until her retirement in 2009; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Wyrick were very involved in Marsalis
14 Avenue Church of Christ and in their denomination's National Youth
15 Conference, and Mrs. Wyrick was instrumental in the establishment
16 of the conference's iconic pageant; moreover, she was a formidable
17 fundraiser for her alma mater, the only HBCU affiliated with the
18 Churches of Christ, and she served as a trustee and member of its
19 executive committee; named Alumnus of the Year three times, she was
20 awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters for her service; and

21 WHEREAS, Highly engaged in civic life as well, Mrs. Wyrick
22 was a Democratic precinct chair for a half century and served as a
23 Dallas County election judge in South Oak Cliff for every
24 municipal, state, and partisan election through 2021; she worked on

1 campaigns for many African American candidates who broke barriers
2 in Dallas County, and her support and endorsement were highly
3 sought; dedicated to getting out the vote, she was so effective that
4 her children's friends would call to assure her that they had,
5 indeed, cast their ballots; she served on the Dallas County
6 Citizens Elections Advisory Committee, the Dallas County Grand
7 Jury, and the City of Dallas Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center
8 Board, which she chaired; in addition, she was a member of numerous
9 other boards, commissions, and organizations, including the Dallas
10 Branch of the NAACP and the Progressive Voters League; and

11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Wyrick and her husband shared a fulfilling
12 relationship of 59 years until his passing in 2020; she took great
13 pride in their two children as well as in their grandsons, Ryan,
14 Richard, Noah, Caleb, and Luke, and great-grandson, Sebastian Dean;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to her family, her faith, and her
17 community, Ruth Wyrick leaves behind a legacy of good works that
18 will long be remembered; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ruth Laverne Wells
21 Wyrick and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn her passing;
22 and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ruth
26 Wyrick.