

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 41

In Memory
of
Kathryn Piekarski

WHEREAS, A life lived with joy and purpose drew to a close with the passing of Kathryn Bridget Connolly Piekarski of Tyler on January 10, 2025, at the age of 72; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of Jewel and John Connolly, the former Bridget Connolly was born in Lakeland, Florida, on December 12, 1952; she earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of South Florida and contributed to multiple publications as a writer and editor during high school and college; in 1981, she became the proud mother of a daughter, Kathryn, and devoted herself to her upbringing; she shared a fulfilling marriage of 27 years with her husband, Anthony Piekarski; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Piekarski lived in many cities, among them Memphis, Tennessee, New Orleans, Louisiana, Anchorage, Alaska, Sarasota, Florida, and London, England; continuing her education, she ultimately earned a master's degree in social work and mental health counseling from the University of Alaska Anchorage; early in her career, she helped schoolchildren in Anchorage and across Central Florida and assessed patients in crisis for hospitals and counties; she eventually established a successful private practice and counseled individuals and families for decades in Florida and then Tyler, where she and her husband settled in 2014 to be close to her grandchildren; wherever she resided, her kindness, empathy, magnetic personality, and keen intellect brought her many lasting friendships; she served as a docent in numerous museums and art galleries, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and worked tirelessly to promote the arts and her favorite local artists; the many organizations she supported included Doctors Without Borders, the SPCA, and a number of symphony orchestras; she also served as co-chair for the American Cancer Society of Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, Although Bridget Piekarski is deeply missed, she has left her family and friends with many cherished memories, and she will forever hold a special place in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Kathryn Bridget Connolly Piekarski and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her husband, Anthony Piekarski; to her daughter, Kathryn Hamilton-Crain, and her husband, Burton; to her brother, Tom Connolly, and his wife, Karen; to her stepchildren, Garreth Piekarski and his wife, Tess Tomasi, and Leah Piekarski; to her grandchildren, Gabriel and John Bradshaw, Burton, Erik, Patrick, and Zoe Crain, Cora Piekarski, Stella and Iris Martin, and Billy Vermeulen; and to her many other relatives and host of friends; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bridget Piekarski.

Hughes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 15, 2025, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate