

By: Driver

H.R. No. 128

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The untimely passing of Teresa Ann "Terri" Kurkjian
2 of Garland on March 15, 2003, at the age of 54, has deeply saddened
3 her family and many friends; and

4 WHEREAS, A native Texan, she was born on January 19, 1949; she
5 earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Baylor
6 University and went on to pursue graduate work in reading at East
7 Texas State University; and

8 WHEREAS, Mrs. Kurkjian had an abiding love for children and
9 worked tirelessly in their behalf; she founded the Garland Home
10 Childcare Association and Family Childcare Association of North
11 Texas and wrote "I Am Not a Babysitter," a training manual for child
12 care providers commissioned by the state, and "All Those Mouths to
13 Feed," a nutritional booklet commissioned by the Save the Children
14 program; on a personal level, this mother of three daughters,
15 together with her husband, Charles, also opened her heart and home
16 to children of all ages over the years who were in need of food and
17 shelter, whether for a night or for several months; and

18 WHEREAS, In her quest to ensure quality child care for this
19 vulnerable segment of the population, this dedicated individual
20 trained hundreds of home child care providers statewide during her
21 career with educational materials she developed, encouraging them
22 to upgrade their skills and program offerings available to the
23 children in their care; and

24 WHEREAS, Throughout her lifetime, Mrs. Kurkjian shared her

1 unwavering faith with others in the First Baptist Church of
2 Garland, where she was a choir member, teacher, and women's retreat
3 leader; in addition, she codirected the developmental committee for
4 the YMCA of Sulphur Springs, served as a board member of Sulphur
5 Springs Community Education, and was affiliated with the National
6 Association for the Education of Young Children and its Dallas
7 chapter; and

8 WHEREAS, Terri Kurkjian's heartfelt efforts to benefit
9 children greatly improved the lives of countless families
10 throughout the Lone Star State, and she will surely be remembered
11 with affection and admiration by all those who were privileged to
12 know her; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
14 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
15 Teresa Ann "Terri" Kurkjian and extend sincere sympathy to the
16 members of her family: to her husband, Charles "Charlie" Kurkjian;
17 to her children, Christie, Debbie, and Katie Beth Kurkjian; to her
18 parents, Jimmy and Nell Ross; to her brother and sister-in-law,
19 Alan and Jois Ross; and to all those who mourn the passing of this
20 remarkable woman; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Terri
24 Kurkjian.