

By: Merritt

H.R. No. 779

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Lois Mason of Kilgore on February 14,
2 2003, at the age of 78, has deeply saddened the family and friends
3 of this esteemed restaurateur; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Mason was born on July 16, 1924, in Leesburg; in
5 1958, she moved to Kilgore where she worked for several
6 restaurants; in 1964, she became a waitress for the Country Tavern,
7 and, after diligently saving her money, Ms. Mason purchased the
8 Country Tavern in 1974; and

9 WHEREAS, For more than a quarter of a century, Ms. Mason
10 delighted countless Kilgore residents and visitors with her superb
11 country fare; rated one of Texas' best barbecue restaurants by
12 *Texas Monthly* and *Texas Highways*, the Country Tavern has attracted
13 people from far and wide, including George Bush, Miss Texas, and
14 Larry Hagman; and

15 WHEREAS, In addition to being a successful businesswoman, Ms.
16 Mason was a devoted wife and caring mother, grandmother, and
17 great-grandmother, as well as a valued member of the Kilgore
18 community; and

19 WHEREAS, Lois Mason's legacy can be found not only in the
20 successful Country Tavern, but also in her lasting, positive
21 impression on her family and many friends, and her spirit will
22 forever shine brightly within their hearts; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
24 Legislature hereby pay special tribute to the life of Lois Mason and

1 extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her
2 husband, Bob Mason; to her son and daughter-in-law, Richard and
3 Patty Pilgrim; to her daughter-in-law, Jeannie Pilgrim; to her
4 three sisters, Ruth Morris, Betty Munn, and Martha Lively; to her
5 three brothers, Willie Hood, David Hood, and Billy Hood; to her nine
6 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; to her nieces and
7 nephews; and to her other relatives and friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lois Mason.