

By: Pitts

H.R. No. 1018

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Betty Sue Shelton Sawyer of Hill
2 County on April 22, 2003, at the age of 68, has deeply saddened the
3 family and friends of this distinguished lady; and

4 WHEREAS, Born September 10, 1934, in Chapman Ranch, Mrs.
5 Sawyer graduated from Itasca schools before attending North Texas
6 State University, where she joined the Delta Gamma Sorority; in
7 only three years, she earned a bachelor of science degree in
8 elementary education with a minor in music and, led by a great
9 passion for children's education, she embarked on a teaching career
10 at elementary schools in Fort Worth and Hillsboro; and

11 WHEREAS, On June 12, 1956, Mrs. Sawyer married her husband,
12 G. Ray Sawyer, and their union was blessed by three children;
13 together, they established the successful family farming business
14 called Sawyer Farms; in later years, Mrs. Sawyer owned and operated
15 Canterbury's, an antique, tableware, and gift store in Hillsboro;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Mrs. Sawyer held a great affection for Texas A&M
18 University, where her husband and three children attended college;
19 as a tribute to her husband, who passed away on August 5, 1999, she
20 established the G. Ray Sawyer Memorial Scholarship Fund; since
21 2000, annual scholarships have been given to Hill County students
22 attending the university, and the special award will be renamed the
23 Betty Sue and G. Ray Sawyer Memorial Scholarship Fund; and

24 WHEREAS, Active in various aspects of her community, Mrs.

1 Sawyer generously devoted her time to the Philotechnos Club, the
2 Hillsboro Heritage League, and the Sesame Club, of which she was a
3 life member and president; and

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Sawyer also shared her deep love for music with
5 others as a member of First Baptist Church in Hillsboro, where she
6 was active in the music ministry; she participated in the sanctuary
7 choir and assisted in the restoration of the church's pipe organ;
8 furthermore, Mrs. Sawyer established the children's choir program
9 and remained active in it until her passing; and

10 WHEREAS, Though she will be widely missed in her community,
11 Mrs. Sawyer will not be forgotten, for her spirit will live on in
12 the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to have known her;
13 now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Betty Sue Shelton
16 Sawyer and that sincere sympathy be extended to the members of her
17 family: to her son, John Ray Sawyer, and his wife, Natasha L.
18 Sawyer; to her daughter, Lisa Sawyer Feather, and her husband,
19 Robert K. Feather; to her son, Joel Timothy Sawyer, and his wife,
20 Julie W. Sawyer; to her six grandchildren, Walker Ray Sawyer,
21 Allison Leigh Sawyer, Victoria Sawyer Feather, Susanna Sawyer
22 Feather, Samantha Grace Sawyer, and Sarah Catherine Sawyer; and to
23 her other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives adjourns on this day, it do so in memory of Betty
27 Sue Shelton Sawyer.