

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mary Belle Ingram of Bay City has received the Ruth
2 Lester Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Historical
3 Commission for her exceptional contributions to historic
4 preservation in the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. Ingram has been a driving force in historic
6 preservation at the city and county levels for more than three
7 decades, and the impact of her work is evident throughout Matagorda
8 County; notable among the fruits of her labors are the Matagorda
9 County Museum and its archives, which she played an instrumental
10 role in establishing; currently a regular volunteer at the museum,
11 she is also chair emeritus of the Matagorda County Museum
12 Association; and

13 WHEREAS, A member of the Matagorda County Historical
14 Commission since 1967, Ms. Ingram has served as its vice chair,
15 preservation chair, and marker chair, and in the latter capacity
16 researched and wrote nearly 20 historical marker narratives; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2000 she initiated the effort to have Matagorda
18 County approved as a Certified Local Government (CLG); furthermore,
19 she rendered invaluable assistance to a survey of the county's
20 historic resources by writing a successful CLG grant application to
21 support the work and by volunteering untold hours of research and
22 expertise; and

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Ingram also drafted Bay City's historic
24 preservation ordinance, helped launch the town's historic plaque

1 program, and today chairs its landmark commission; she has
2 researched more than 200 structures within the square mile that
3 constituted the original part of the city, and she chaired the
4 design committee of the town's Main Street program when it
5 established a 22-block historic district; and

6 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan formed a Junior Historian
7 chapter at McAllister Junior High School in the late 1960s, and
8 during her outstanding 30-year teaching career she tutored numerous
9 students in the craft of writing local history; her own articles
10 appear frequently in the *Bay City Tribune*, and she has both written
11 and contributed research to several other publications, including a
12 multivolume history of Matagorda County, a newspaper series marking
13 the county's sesquicentennial, and a history of Bay City's First
14 United Methodist Church; and

15 WHEREAS, Ms. Ingram has served as president of both the
16 Matagorda County Historical Society and the Matagorda County
17 Genealogical Society; among the accolades she has garnered have
18 been an award for her church history and tributes from the State
19 Genealogical Society, the Matagorda County Museum, and the Bay City
20 Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture; and

21 WHEREAS, Through her dynamic leadership and tireless
22 commitment to preserving the heritage of her city and county, Mary
23 Belle Ingram has bequeathed a legacy of immeasurable richness to
24 all Texans; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
26 Legislature hereby congratulate Mary Belle Ingram on her receipt of
27 the Ruth Lester Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas

H.R. No. 1469

1 Historical Commission and extend to her sincere best wishes for
2 continued success in all her endeavors; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Ms. Ingram as an expression of high regard by the Texas
5 House of Representatives.

Dawson

H.R. No. 1469

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1469 was adopted by the House on May 30, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House