

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 550

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Ruth Deerman, who has been selected as a role model for the City of El Paso by the *El Paso Times* on the occasion of Women's History Month; and

WHEREAS, Women's History Month is celebrated annually during the month of March; to honor the vital roles women play in shaping new directions and ideas in society, the national theme of Women's History Month in 2003 is "Women Pioneering the Future"; and

WHEREAS, For its selection of women who serve as role models for the City of El Paso, the *El Paso Times* invited its readers to nominate women who have made a strong impact on their family, their neighborhood, or the entire city; the many deserving women who were selected for this public recognition are genuine trailblazers in a wide variety of fields; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Deerman is a sales director for Mary Kay and a flight instructor, and she has attained a notable and inspiring reputation as a pilot; in 1954, she and Ruby Hays piloted a C-140 prop plane, the "Cotton Clipper Cutie," from Long Beach, California, to Knoxville, Tennessee, besting 45 other airplanes to win the Powder Puff Derby; she was a charter member of the El Paso chapter of the Ninety-Nines, an international organization of women pilots, and later became president of the international organization; she also helped establish the El Paso Aviation Association, which she served as vice president; and

WHEREAS, With her many gifts and talents and through her initiative and perseverance, Ruth has set a lasting standard for others to emulate; and

WHEREAS, Her worthy accomplishments and her pioneering spirit truly make Ruth an inspiration for all citizens of El Paso and a source of pride for all Texans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend Ruth Deerman on her selection as a role model for the City of El Paso; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Shapleigh

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 7, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate