

By: Farabee

H.C.R. No. 21

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The 100th birthday celebration of an esteemed Texas
2 citizen is an event most worthy of special recognition, and on July
3 19, 2005, Roberta Farris of Wichita Falls is marking this momentous
4 milestone in her life; and

5 WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of the Lone Star State,
6 Mrs. Farris was born in Lewisville in 1905, and attended Prairie
7 View Normal Academy as a girl; she went on to earn a teaching
8 certificate from Prairie View College and graduated from the
9 institution in 1937; and

10 WHEREAS, On June 4, 1927, she exchanged vows with James
11 Randolph Farris, with whom she enjoyed more than 30 years of
12 marriage before his passing; Mrs. Farris has been blessed with two
13 children, Charlye Ola Farris and James Randolph Farris, Jr., and
14 she now numbers within her family circle two grandchildren, Troy
15 Kevin Farris and James Randolph Farris III; and

16 WHEREAS, An educator for nearly half a century, Mrs. Farris
17 imparted her love of learning to countless Texas children; she was
18 hired as the first African American teacher in Electra and later
19 served as a third grade teacher at Booker T. Washington School in
20 Wichita Falls; in 1969, following school integration, she
21 transferred to Lamar Elementary, where she taught until her
22 retirement in 1973; and

23 WHEREAS, Mrs. Farris has been an active and steadfast
24 congregant of the Wichita Falls Gilbert Memorial Christian

1 Methodist Episcopal Church; a lifetime member, she has served the
2 institution as a piano player and Sunday school teacher; and

3 WHEREAS, Roberta Farris has brought great joy and happiness
4 into the lives of many; a cherished member of her family and
5 community, she has earned a special place in the hearts of all who
6 are privileged to know her; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas,
8 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate Roberta Farris on the
9 occasion of her 100th birthday and extend to her sincere best wishes
10 for much continued happiness; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Mrs. Farris as an expression of high regard by the
13 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.