

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 69

In Memory  
of  
Dorothy Redus Robinson

**WHEREAS**, The town of Palestine lost one of its most beloved residents with the passing of Dorothy Redus Robinson, on June 23, 2005, at the age of 96; and

**WHEREAS**, Born on May 3, 1909, in Lavaca County, Mrs. Robinson graduated from Yoakum High School and earned her bachelor's degree in home economics from Prairie View State College; in 1930, she married her college sweetheart, Frank J. Robinson, with whom she shared a long and happy marriage until his death in 1976; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Robinson continued her university studies at San Francisco State, where she received a master's degree in elementary education with a minor in counseling and guidance; she furthered her education by attending classes at a number of institutions, including The University of Texas at Austin and the University of California at Berkeley; and

**WHEREAS**, Highly regarded for her keen intellect and passion for education, this esteemed Texan enjoyed a 46-year career as a teacher and administrator that began in Lavaca County, where she was the sole instructor in a one-room school that combined several grades; she later taught in the communities of Flint Hill and Green Bay, and her service in Palestine included a 15-year tenure as the special education coordinator; she further distinguished herself by teaching college-level courses through the Prairie View College Extension Program and by being the first African American woman elected to the Palestine Independent School Board board of trustees; she retired as principal of Rusk Elementary in 1974; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Robinson's commitment to her profession extended beyond the walls of the classroom; a member of the Anderson County Teachers Association, the Texas State Teachers Association, and the Palestine City Teachers Association, she also co-chaired a hearing session at the 1973 Governor's Conference on Technical-Vocational Education, represented the state at the National Conference on Innovations in Title III Projects, and served as a member of the Committee to Revise the State Curriculum Guide for Mental Retardation and the Texas State Public Schools Instructional Resources Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, In addition to her devotion to education, Mrs. Robinson was deeply committed to making her community a better place to live and was active with myriad civic organizations; founder and president of the Palestine chapter of the Negro Business & Professional Women's Club, she was also a vital asset to the Anderson County Mental Retardation Association Board of

Directors, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Incorporated, Eastern Star Lodge, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and South Union Missionary Baptist Church; furthermore, she was a talented writer and the author of *The Bell Rings at Four: A Black Teacher's Chronicle of Change and Seed Times & Harvest*; and

**WHEREAS**, The granddaughter of slaves, Dorothy Robinson made education a priority for herself, and she passed her love of learning on to her students and to her nieces and nephews, who treasured her wisdom and guidance; an inspiring role model for countless area Texans, she leaves behind a legacy of achievement, compassion, and civic engagement that will long be remembered; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay special tribute to the life of Dorothy Redus Robinson and extend deepest sympathy to the members of her family: to her sister, Leona Redus Sansom; her sister-in-law, Mrs. Warner L. Redus; and to three generations of nieces and nephews and her other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dorothy Redus Robinson.

Staples

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 12, 2005, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate