

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 137

In Memory
of
Rowena McNeel Dillon

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of San Antonio in mourning the loss of Rowena McNeel Dillon, who died August 5, 2005, at the age of 67; and

WHEREAS, Philanthropist, arts patron, and cattle rancher, Rowena McNeel Dillon devoted her life to improving her community; her energy and generosity made San Antonio a better place to live for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Born November 23, 1937, Rowena grew up in San Antonio and spent many holidays and weekends on her family's Esperanza Ranch in Fowlerton; she attended Saint Mary's Hall in San Antonio and graduated from The University of Texas at Austin in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Rowena supported numerous arts organizations, including Bazaar Sábado, and she acquired numerous pieces for the Latin American collection at the San Antonio Museum of Art; and

WHEREAS, Rowena was an advocate for many health care issues; she helped found Hospice San Antonio and worked with the Texas Diabetes Institute at the University Health System to promote diabetes awareness; and

WHEREAS, After being diagnosed with breast cancer, Rowena began promoting and supporting an organization called Women Involved in Nurturing, Giving, and Sharing, or WINGS, which pays for breast cancer treatments for underprivileged and uninsured women; and

WHEREAS, Rowena was active in her church communities, first at Christ Episcopal Church and then at Saint Mark's

Episcopal Church, where she helped start Ruby's Kitchen Ministry to feed the homeless; and

WHEREAS, A woman of courage, strength, and compassion, Rowena gave generously of herself to others, and her wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew her; and

WHEREAS, A devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, she leaves behind memories that will be cherished forever by her family and many friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Rowena McNeel Dillon: her husband of 45 years, David T. Dillon; her children, Rena Dillon Cruz and Reilly McNeel Dillon; her sister, Jane M. Keller; and her three grandchildren; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of her family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Rowena McNeel Dillon.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 19, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate