

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The community of Bandera was deeply saddened by the  
2 sudden passing of Claire Johnston on November 19, 2005, and we join  
3 her many friends and admirers in mourning their loss; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Dalhart, the former Claire Elizabeth  
5 Beecroft grew up in San Marcos and graduated from The University of  
6 Texas at Austin with a degree in education and foreign languages;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, She was a military wife before moving to Brownsville  
9 with her first husband, Major John Frederick English, who died in  
10 1976; and

11           WHEREAS, In 1982 she married Gary Johnston and moved with him  
12 to Bandera, and in the years that followed she distinguished  
13 herself as one of this Central Texas town's most influential and  
14 beloved citizens; she played a key role in the organization of the  
15 Bandera Regional Community Foundation and in the designation of the  
16 Bandera Library Corporation as a nonprofit entity; and

17           WHEREAS, An avid and talented gardener, Mrs. Johnston also  
18 served as treasurer of the Rose Garden Club of Medina, and had  
19 previously served as a director of District VII of Texas Garden  
20 Clubs, Inc., and in several capacities with the San Antonio Garden  
21 Center, of which she was a life member; and

22           WHEREAS, Her gardening expertise and bilingual abilities led  
23 her to prominence as an internationally accredited flower show and  
24 horticultural design judge, and her taste and judgment were sought

1 after as far away as Mexico and South America; and

2 WHEREAS, In all her travels, her heart never strayed far from  
3 her Hill Country home, where she cultivated her friendships with  
4 the same care she devoted to her own beloved garden; and

5 WHEREAS, Though she will be greatly missed, Claire Johnston  
6 will long be remembered for her kindness, her creativity, and her  
7 graciousness by all those who were fortunate enough to have known  
8 her; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
10 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
11 Claire Johnston and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her  
12 family: to her husband, Gary Johnston; to her brother and  
13 sister-in-law, Bertram and Betty Beecroft; to her sister and  
14 brother-in-law, Catherine and Everett Johnson; to her niece, Mary  
15 Morgan; to her nephews, Thomas L. Beecroft and his wife, Diane,  
16 Samuel R. Beecroft and his wife, Melissa, and Everett F. Johnson and  
17 his wife, Mindy; to her stepchildren, Jordan M. Johnston, Daria J.  
18 Williams and her husband, Jason, and Marcus F. Johnston; and to her  
19 other family members and many friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Claire  
23 Johnston.

Hilderbran

H.R. No. 147

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 147 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 27, 2006.

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Chief Clerk of the House