

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and  
2 meaningful accomplishments may comfort the family and many friends  
3 of Tommie Gipson North of San Angelo, who passed away on January 28,  
4 2006, at the age of 85; and

5           WHEREAS, Born in Gorman on March 23, 1920, to T. R. and Martha  
6 Wynn, the former Tommie Eloise Wynn attended schools in San Angelo,  
7 where she excelled in literature and showed a keen talent for  
8 writing; she married the author Fred Gipson in 1940 and, over the  
9 course of their 24-year marriage, provided important creative and  
10 editorial support on several of his novels, including the classic  
11 *Old Yeller*; fortunate enough to find love a second time, she wed Joe  
12 North in 1968, and the devoted couple shared many wonderful years  
13 together until his passing; and

14           WHEREAS, This graduate of San Angelo State University worked  
15 with The University of Texas Press for three years and later  
16 distinguished herself as an English and creative writing teacher at  
17 San Angelo Central High School; an avid reader, she remained active  
18 following her 1986 retirement, participating in book clubs,  
19 writing, and studying genealogy; and

20           WHEREAS, Though it is impossible to gauge the full effect of a  
21 person's life, some individuals leave their unmistakable mark on  
22 the world as they move through it, and Tommie North's contributions  
23 to the Texas literary community will long resonate in the lives of  
24 those she inspired and in the work she helped nurture; now,

1 therefore, be it

2           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
3 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
4 Tommie Gipson North and extend deepest sympathy to the members of  
5 her family: to her son, Beck Gipson, and his wife, Sue; to her  
6 stepsons, Ronnie and Gary North; to her sister, Marjorie Sager; to  
7 her brother, Bill Wynn; to her grandson, Ben Gipson; to her  
8 step-granddaughters, Kim Shields and her husband, Clint, and Krista  
9 Roberts and her husband, Rance; to her great-grandsons, Braden  
10 Scott Shields, Reid Lewis Shields, Thomas Mason Roberts, Fisher  
11 Riley Roberts, and Gipson Luke Roberts; and to her other relatives  
12 and many friends; and, be it further

13           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Tommie  
16 Gipson North.

Hilderbran

H.R. No. 499

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 499 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 12, 2006.

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Chief Clerk of the House