

By: Martinez

H.R. No. 2291

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Marcia Jean Parrish Shedden, a longtime resident of
2 South Texas, passed away on May 27, 2005, at the age of 82, and her
3 loss has left a void in the lives of the many people who knew and
4 loved her; and

5 WHEREAS, A gifted pianist and organist, Mrs. Shedden
6 possessed a talent and passion for music that remained with her
7 throughout her life; she began performing on piano at the age of 10
8 and established a career as a musician and entertainer that earned
9 her a legion of fans; and

10 WHEREAS, This exceptional woman performed with a host of
11 celebrated entertainers during her career, including Gregory
12 Hines, Phil Harris, Mamie Van Doren, Tennessee Ernie Ford, Dick
13 Dale, and Guy, Rona, and Myron Floran from the legendary "Lawrence
14 Welk Show"; and

15 WHEREAS, Although her passion for music and performance was
16 strong, she was equally devoted to raising her six children,
17 demonstrating incredible perseverance; she worked full-time
18 selling pianos and organs, supplementing her income with public
19 performances, in order to take care of the needs of her family; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Shedden enjoyed a lengthy and productive tenure
21 with the Dean Canty Band that spanned more than 20 years; she played
22 at the McAllen Country Club and the Palm Valley Country Club in
23 Harlingen and also found time to serve as a volunteer for an array
24 of civic and social organizations, including the Community Concert

1 Association, the San Juan Music and Dramatic Arts Club, and the San
2 Juan Park Advisory Committee; and

3 WHEREAS, Preceded in death by her husbands, Kenneth Ralph
4 Parrish and Tweed Shedden, Marcia Shedden was an inspiration to her
5 family, friends, and fans, and although she will be deeply missed by
6 all who knew her, her spirit will live on in their hearts for years
7 to come; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Marcia Jean Parrish
10 Shedden and extend sincere condolences to the members of her
11 family: to her children and their spouses, Timothy and Mary
12 Parrish, Tamara and Paul Cowen, Trina and Michael Boothe, Trudy and
13 Reynaldo Garza, Trecia and Jamie Munal, and Julie and Mike
14 McKissick; to her sister, Dottie Smith; to her 10 grandchildren and
15 one great-granddaughter; and to her other relatives and friends;
16 and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Marcia Jean
20 Parrish Shedden.