

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 307

In Memory  
of  
Betty Jo Hay

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Dallas in mourning the death of Betty Jo Hay, who died February 16, 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, Born June 6, 1931, in McAlester, Oklahoma, Betty Jo was the only child of Duncan and Kathryn Peacock; when Betty Jo was 12 her family moved to Dallas, where she graduated from Sunset High School; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Jo attended Southern Methodist University, where she was a member of the debate club; she graduated with a bachelor's degree in speech; and

**WHEREAS**, While attending college, Betty Jo met a fellow debater, Jess Hay; the couple was married on August 3, 1951, beginning a lifelong partnership with a shared passion for politics; and

**WHEREAS**, Renowned for her volunteer activities, Betty Jo served on the National Commission on Children and the Governor's Council on Disabilities and on the boards of the Texas Child Abuse Prevention Foundation and the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas; and

**WHEREAS**, She began her dedicated involvement in the field of mental health with the Mental Health Association of Dallas in 1972 and served as its president in 1981 and 1982; and

**WHEREAS**, She was elected president of the Texas Mental Health Association in 1983 and 1984 and of the National Mental Health Association in 1986; the national association presented her with its highest honor, the Sandy Brandt Volunteer Award, in 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, The Betty Jo Hay Distinguished Chair of Mental Health was endowed at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas to support research efforts to understand, prevent, and treat mental diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, An integral part of Betty Jo's daily life was her faith; she taught Sunday school and served as president of the Women's Society of Christian Service and as advisor for the Methodist Youth Fellowship; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty Jo's strength, wisdom, and generosity will not be forgotten by those who knew her; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Betty Jo Hay: her husband, Jess Hay; her daughters and son-in-law, Patricia Hay Daibert and Deborah Hay Spradley and E. Webb Spradley; her grandchildren, Jessica Kathryn Werner, Rachel Hay Spradley, and Jess Hay Daibert; and many cherished friends and family members; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for 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 Betty Jo Hay.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 7, 2005, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate