

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 389

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 100th birthday celebration of an esteemed Texas
2 citizen is an event most worthy of special recognition, and on
3 February 28, 2007, Brigid Elizabeth Lupton Owen of Lubbock is
4 marking this momentous milestone in her life; and

5 WHEREAS, Mrs. Owen was born in Lubbock in 1907, the oldest of
6 seven children; after graduating from high school in California,
7 she attended San Diego State Teachers College, West Texas State
8 Teachers College, New Mexico A&M, and Texas Tech University, where
9 she earned her bachelor's degree in education; and

10 WHEREAS, On May 17, 1932, she exchanged vows with Lewis Owen,
11 with whom she enjoyed nearly 30 years of marriage before his
12 passing; Mrs. Owen has been blessed with 10 children, and she now
13 numbers within her family circle 36 grandchildren, 45
14 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren; and

15 WHEREAS, An educator for four decades, Mrs. Owen imparted her
16 love of learning to countless children; she began her teaching
17 career in 1924 at the High Lonesome Ranch in New Mexico, later
18 returning to the Texas plains to teach at a small German settlement
19 in Pep; she taught and served as principal of the school until 1944,
20 when she took a hiatus from her career to take care of her growing
21 family; and

22 WHEREAS, Mrs. Owen returned to work in 1957, when Christ the
23 King Cathedral opened a Catholic school in Lubbock, and her special
24 gift for teaching children to read benefited every student that

1 passed through her second grade classroom; even after retiring in
2 1977, she continued to tutor children who had difficulty learning
3 to read; recently, Christ the King Cathedral School Foundation
4 Board paid tribute to her with an award for Excellence in the
5 Furthering of Catholic Education; and

6 WHEREAS, Never one to be idle, Mrs. Owen has enjoyed
7 painting, quilting, and crocheting, a hobby that led her to make
8 hats and booties for thousands of newborns through the St. Mary's
9 Hospital Auxiliary; a voracious reader, she is said to have read
10 every book about the High Plains area and New Mexico; she learned to
11 type in order to transcribe and publish her mother's diaries and, at
12 the age of 93, she learned how to use computers so that she could
13 keep in touch with her loved ones by e-mail; and

14 WHEREAS, This woman of strong faith has been a lifelong
15 member of the Catholic church; a charter member of Christ the King
16 Cathedral in Lubbock, she has taught religion classes, been active
17 in the Order of Martha for half a century, and volunteered as a Rose
18 Lady at St. Mary's Hospital for many years; and

19 WHEREAS, Known affectionately as "Big Red," Brigid Owen has
20 brought great joy and happiness into the lives of many; a cherished
21 member of her family and community, she has earned a special place
22 in the hearts of all who are privileged to know her; now, therefore,
23 be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
25 Legislature hereby congratulate Brigid Elizabeth Lupton Owen on the
26 occasion of her 100th birthday and extend to her sincere best wishes
27 for much continued happiness; and, be it further

H.R. No. 389

1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for Mrs. Owen as an expression of high regard by the Texas
3 House of Representatives.