

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 2075

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 journalist Kay Longcope of Austin, who passed away on March 28,  
4 2007; and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. Longcope published her first newspaper while  
6 attending South Ward Elementary; growing up in Brownwood, she knew  
7 from an early age that she wanted to be a journalist, and she  
8 continued to pursue journalism throughout her academic career,  
9 working on her high school paper and writing for *The Daily Texan* as  
10 a student at The University of Texas; and

11 WHEREAS, After a decade of doing publicity work for the  
12 United Council of Churches in New York, she joined the staff of the  
13 *Boston Globe* in 1970, serving as an urban specialist reporter and  
14 religion editor; later in her 22-year tenure with the paper, she  
15 covered civil rights issues and a wide range of news topics  
16 affecting the lesbian and gay community; and

17 WHEREAS, Her work was recognized by the Human Rights Campaign  
18 Fund, and when U.S. Representative Barney Frank decided to disclose  
19 that he was gay, he chose Ms. Longcope to conduct the interview; as  
20 the *Globe's* first openly gay reporter, she served as a passionate  
21 force for change and an eloquent advocate for gay and lesbian  
22 rights; and

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Longcope retired from the *Boston Globe* in 1992  
24 and moved to Austin with her partner, Barbara Wohlgemuth; together

1 they established the *Texas Triangle*, a weekly for the gay and  
2 lesbian community; the publication focused on news and social  
3 issues, and within only three weeks circulation went statewide;  
4 maintaining high ethical standards, Ms. Longcope refused to allow  
5 certain advertisements in the paper, even at risk of financial  
6 loss; and

7 WHEREAS, This notable Texan maintained a home in Austin for  
8 many years, but also loved spending time in her second home of North  
9 Truro, Massachusetts, where she wrote freelance pieces and took  
10 time to enjoy her favorite hobbies; and

11 WHEREAS, A woman of tremendous integrity and independence,  
12 Kay Longcope informed and enlightened many throughout her career,  
13 and she leaves behind a legacy that will continue to benefit the  
14 lives of countless Texans; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Kay Longcope and  
17 extend deepest sympathy to her partner of 17 years, Barbara  
18 Wohlgemuth, to her brothers, Charles Longcope, Jr., and Edmund M.  
19 Longcope III, and to all those who mourn her passing; and, be it  
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for her loved ones and that when the Texas House of  
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Kay  
24 Longcope.