

By: Laubenberg

H.R. No. 712

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Ester  
2 Kay "Mimmy" Phillips of Garland, who passed away on February 25,  
3 2009, at the age of 65; and

4           WHEREAS, The daughter of Robert Preston and Mary J. Bryan,  
5 the former Ester Kay Bryan was born on October 2, 1943, in Dallas,  
6 and she grew up in a cheerful home with her four siblings; she went  
7 on to meet Steve R. Phillips, and they were united in marriage in  
8 1961, with her father, a Baptist pastor, performing the ceremony;  
9 the couple soon relocated to California, where they became the  
10 parents of a son, Steven Scott, and a daughter, Tamara Kay; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips later returned to the Lone  
12 Star State, and they welcomed their son, John Mark, in 1967, while  
13 they were residing in San Antonio; when Mrs. Phillips discovered  
14 that John Mark had been born deaf, she immediately learned sign  
15 language, and it was she who taught the other members of her family  
16 how to communicate via signs with John Mark; she later led songs in  
17 sign language at Calvary Baptist Church, where she also taught  
18 first grade Sunday school for 30 years; and

19           WHEREAS, A strong supporter of the Republican Party,  
20 Mrs. Phillips participated in numerous precinct and senatorial  
21 conventions; she knocked on doors, made countless phone calls, and  
22 hung signs in behalf of Republican candidates at the local, state,  
23 and national levels; moreover, she was an active member of Golden  
24 Corridor Republican Women, and she was highly regarded by the group

1 for devoting her time and talents as its hospitality chair;  
2 Mrs. Phillips further demonstrated her patriotism by hosting a  
3 neighborhood Fourth of July parade, through which her fellow  
4 residents came to appreciate her knack for entertaining; and

5 WHEREAS, A woman of strong faith and character, Mrs. Phillips  
6 was known for serving others selflessly and for sharing her  
7 positive attitude, her words of encouragement, and her bright smile  
8 with everyone she met; in addition to her husband and three  
9 children, Mrs. Phillips delighted in the company of her 13  
10 grandchildren, and she enjoyed taking them on summer vacations and  
11 celebrating their birthdays; and

12 WHEREAS, A dedicated volunteer and a beloved matriarch, Kay  
13 Phillips enhanced the lives of her relatives, friends, and  
14 neighbors with her caring nature, and her memory will forever be  
15 treasured in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know  
16 her; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
18 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ester Kay Phillips and  
19 extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her husband  
20 of 47 years, Steve R. Phillips; to her sons, Steven Scott Phillips  
21 and his wife, Diane, and John Mark Phillips and his wife, Saunia; to  
22 her daughter, Tamara Kay McElwain, and her husband, Tom; to her  
23 grandchildren, Amber Cannon-Edwards and her husband, Matt,  
24 Ashleigh, Allison, and Amy McElwain, and Zachary, Danielle, Hope,  
25 Alyssa, Brendan, Shane, Adrienne, Bethany, and Jason Phillips; to  
26 her sisters, Sue Alexander and her husband, Deaun, and Carol  
27 Whitley; to her brothers, Paul Bryan and his wife, Pat, and David

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1 Bryan and his wife, Carol; and to her other relatives and friends;  
2 and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ester Kay  
6 Phillips.