

By: Rios Ybarra

H.R. No. 749

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Educator Elma Jean Oden made a positive difference  
2 in the lives of countless students for more than three decades; and

3 WHEREAS, A graduate of Louisiana Tech University and the  
4 University of Arkansas, Mrs. Oden was an inspiring reading teacher  
5 who spent the last half of her career in the Corpus Christi  
6 Independent School District, where she chose to serve in low  
7 socioeconomic schools; and

8 WHEREAS, Mrs. Oden challenged her students to succeed and  
9 served as a powerful example for them with her well-known zest for  
10 learning; one of her proudest accomplishments is sponsoring CCISD's  
11 first Odyssey of the Mind middle school team, which went on to reach  
12 the state competition; and

13 WHEREAS, In addition to her work in the classroom, Mrs. Oden  
14 distinguished herself as a member of state committees charged with  
15 reviewing textbooks and writing curriculum, and she gave several  
16 presentations at reading and writing workshops; she retired in  
17 1998, and she and her husband, John, moved to Rowlette to live near  
18 their daughter, Johnette, and her family; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Oden invested her time and talents in  
20 developing the Lone Star State's most precious resource, and in so  
21 doing, she opened up the minds of many young people to the joys of  
22 learning; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
24 Legislature hereby honor Elma Jean Oden for her commitment to her

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1 students and her achievements as an educator and extend to her deep  
2 appreciation for her exemplary public service; and, be it further

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