

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The untimely death of Debra Lynn Picha on June 25,  
2 2007, at the age of 52, brought a tragic loss to Round Rock and to  
3 the family and many friends of this beloved teacher; and

4           WHEREAS, The daughter of Alvin and Dora Picha, Debbie Picha  
5 was born in Bay City on May 18, 1955, and grew up in Brazoria, where  
6 she enjoyed happy times with her large extended family and made many  
7 lasting friendships; she attended West Columbia High School,  
8 playing in the band and delighting her classmates with her  
9 irrepressible sense of humor; and

10           WHEREAS, Ms. Picha earned her bachelor's degree in elementary  
11 education from Texas State University in 1977 and moved to Houston,  
12 beginning her career in the Cypress Fairbanks School District; on  
13 July 1, 1989, she married Larry Hathorn in a ceremony in Brazoria  
14 County, and the couple moved to the Austin area three years later;  
15 she joined Fern Bluff Elementary School in Round Rock when it opened  
16 in the fall of 1992 and won the hearts of children, parents, and  
17 colleagues with her dedication, kindness, and effervescent  
18 personality; and

19           WHEREAS, A naturally gifted teacher, Ms. Picha commanded the  
20 attention of every child in her first-grade class, imparting her  
21 own enthusiasm for learning; she worked tirelessly to ensure their  
22 individual needs were met, and after a successful two-year battle  
23 against cancer, she returned to education; Ms. Picha devoted untold  
24 hours to preparation, determined to keep improving her classroom

1 skills despite her many years of experience; although she had a  
2 penchant for accessorizing and was prone to dress fashionably, she  
3 never let her impeccable attire stop her from having fun with her  
4 pupils on the playground, and she cut an equally charming figure  
5 when she appeared in camouflage fatigues on field day; and

6 WHEREAS, Debbie Picha had an immensely positive effect on the  
7 world around her, setting countless children on the path to success  
8 with her encouragement and firm, loving guidance; moreover, she  
9 taught young and old alike to live life to the fullest, and those  
10 who were privileged to know her will forever treasure memories of  
11 her vibrant smile, ready wit, and selfless devotion to her calling;  
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Debra Lynn Picha and  
15 extend sincere sympathy to her many family members and host of  
16 friends; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Debra Lynn  
20 Picha.

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H.R. No. 1078

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1078 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 9, 2009.

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Chief Clerk of the House