

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 1746

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Honorable Bonnie Leggat Hagan of Marshall  
2 concluded a distinguished 20-year judicial career with her  
3 retirement on December 30, 2008, from the 71st District Court; and

4           WHEREAS, After serving from 1980 to 1985 as a Harrison County  
5 assistant prosecutor, Judge Leggat Hagan was appointed by Governor  
6 Mark White as Harrison County district attorney; with her selection  
7 to that post, she became the first woman to serve as district  
8 attorney in the State of Texas; and

9           WHEREAS, Judge Leggat Hagan made history again in 1987 when  
10 she won election as the first woman to preside over the 71st  
11 District Court; among the many new court programs instituted during  
12 her tenure on the bench were two of immeasurable value to children:  
13 Kid Safe and CASA; Kid Safe, which Judge Leggat Hagan was  
14 instrumental in initiating and developing, is designed to help  
15 divorcing parents foster their children's emotional health during  
16 times of stress; Judge Leggat Hagan's court was the first in Texas  
17 to adopt the program, which has now been implemented in every other  
18 county in the state; the second major effort to benefit youth, CASA,  
19 provides volunteer advocates for abused and neglected children; the  
20 Harrison County CASA program was established in 2007 and is  
21 expected to expand into Marion and Panola Counties within the next  
22 two years; and

23           WHEREAS, This esteemed jurist has served on the Supreme Court  
24 Task Force on Rules of Discovery, delivered presentations and

1 authored papers on various legal topics, and served as a speaker and  
2 panel member for continuing legal education programs; and

3 WHEREAS, Deeply involved in her community, Judge Leggat Hagan  
4 has been a board member for the Boys and Girls Clubs of East Texas  
5 and for Harrison County CASA, as well as Caddo District troop chair  
6 for the Boy Scouts of America; she is a founding board member of the  
7 Marshall-Harrison County Literacy Council and an elder and deacon  
8 of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; and

9 WHEREAS, Since stepping down from the bench, Judge Leggat  
10 Hagan has joined her husband, James Richard Hagan, in private  
11 practice; the couple are the proud parents of two sons, David Roth  
12 and Samuel Joseph; and

13 WHEREAS, In her capacity as a district judge, Bonnie Leggat  
14 Hagan exemplified the highest standards of her profession and  
15 earned the appreciation and high regard of countless fellow  
16 citizens; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
18 Legislature hereby honor Bonnie Leggat Hagan for her outstanding  
19 service as judge of the 71st District Court and extend to her  
20 sincere best wishes for continued success in all her endeavors;  
21 and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for Judge Leggat Hagan as an expression of high regard by  
24 the Texas House of Representatives.