

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 707**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Mary J. Worrel on the grand occasion of her 80th birthday on April 28, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, Juarez Kumi Jeter was born April 28, 1929, in a boxcar in Van Alstyne, Texas, to Arthur Ambrose "Daddy Doc" Jeter and Jewell Duffy Jeter; she was raised in Alabama, and as a teenager, she took the audacious step of renaming herself "Mary"; and

**WHEREAS**, While still in her teens, she became a military wife, and by the age of 29, she had lived in various places around the world, including Japan and England, and was the mother of six children; and

**WHEREAS**, She moved to Austin in the early 1960s, soon became a widow, and then blossomed as an entrepreneur back in the days when a woman was not allowed to sign a contract without her husband's name on it; and

**WHEREAS**, Her first venture into business was to purchase a rental home after reading a library book on real estate; she also served as an employee at the Jet Drive-In and proceeded to become both its owner and manager and quite the lady of independent means; and

**WHEREAS**, She married Colonel Albert A. Worrel, retired, and became mother of two "change of life" babies; she went on to acquire and manage many rental properties, became widowed again, and after years of so-called retirement, she began her current work as a sample lady for Sam's Club, where she is known by all as

"the flower hat lady"; she also manages to find time to pursue her talent as an artist and has taken classes in oil painting for 20 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Noted for her charm and intrepid spirit, Mary Worrel is beloved by her family and many friends and is an exemplary lady whose energy and zest for life serve as an inspiration to others; she loves her work at Sam's Club, but she only plans to work there for 20 more years; her greatest joy is her two young grandchildren, Albert and Flora; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend Mary J. Worrel on her many accomplishments and successes throughout her life and extend heartfelt congratulations to her on the joyful occasion of her 80th birthday; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mary Worrel, the distinguished lady of the flowered hat.

Watson

---

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 23, 2009.

---

Secretary of the Senate

---

Member, Texas Senate