

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of El Paso lost one of their most admired  
2 community leaders with the death of Anita Blair on August 25, 2010,  
3 at the age of 93; and

4           WHEREAS, A native of the Sun City, Ms. Blair was born on  
5 September 8, 1916; the course of her life was forever changed  
6 shortly after her graduation from Austin High School, when she was  
7 blinded in an automobile accident; determined to regain her  
8 independence, she became the first El Paso resident to receive a  
9 Seeing Eye dog, a German shepherd that enabled her to sustain her  
10 mobility and move forward with confidence and a renewed hope for a  
11 promising future; and

12           WHEREAS, Ms. Blair earned a bachelor's degree from Texas  
13 College of Mines & Metallurgy and accomplished a remarkable feat in  
14 1953 when she became the first blind woman elected to any state  
15 legislature; during her term in the Texas House of Representatives,  
16 she championed safety legislation and the rights of the disabled,  
17 serving on the committees of Education, Public Lands and Buildings,  
18 School Districts, and State Hospitals and Special Schools; and

19           WHEREAS, In addition to her service in the house, Ms. Blair  
20 served as a member of Harry Truman's Presidential Safety Committee  
21 and as a valued resource for the El Paso City Council and County  
22 Commissioners Court; and

23           WHEREAS, Though it is impossible to gauge the full effect of a  
24 person's life, some individuals leave their unmistakable mark on

1 the world as they move through it, and Anita Blair's contributions  
2 to her community will long resonate in the lives of all who knew  
3 her; now, therefore, be it

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
5 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Anita Blair and  
6 extend deepest sympathy to all those who mourn her passing; and, be  
7 it further

8       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
9 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Anita  
11 Blair.

Marquez

H.R. No. 309

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 309 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 24, 2011.

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Chief Clerk of the House