

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 358

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life full of meaningful accomplishments and
2 enduring relationships drew to a close with the passing of
3 Henrietta Eugene Roberts Stevenson of San Antonio on October 30,
4 2009, at the age of 94; and

5 WHEREAS, The granddaughter of former slaves, Henrietta
6 Eugene Roberts was born in San Antonio on July 24, 1915, to
7 Porterfield F. Roberts and Ira Aldridge Kilpatrick Roberts; the
8 former Henrietta Roberts was joined in matrimony to Ernest Franklin
9 Stevenson, a chemist and educator, and the couple enjoyed a
10 rewarding relationship that spanned 62 years; they were blessed
11 with two children, Maria and Ernest, and Mrs. Stevenson also
12 delighted in the company of their five grandchildren and two
13 great-grandchildren; and

14 WHEREAS, After graduating from Douglas High School in 1931,
15 Mrs. Stevenson attended St. Philip's College in San Antonio for her
16 freshman year; she went on to earn her bachelor's and master's
17 degrees from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where she was
18 president of the Beta Eta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Stevenson spent part of her career as a civil
20 servant, working for the Office of Dependency Benefits of the War
21 Department, the Insurance Division of the Veterans Administration,
22 and at the Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey; and

23 WHEREAS, An educator for 35 years, she taught Spanish and
24 French at Huston-Tillotson College and St. Philip's College; in

1 addition, she was the first African American teacher to work in the
2 schools of Morristown, New Jersey, and she also taught in Montclair
3 and East Orange, New Jersey; she returned to teach in San Antonio in
4 1971, retiring from Laura Steele Elementary School 11 years later;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, This dynamic woman contributed greatly to a number
7 of worthwhile organizations throughout her life; a member of the
8 NAACP since 1952, she was also a lifetime member of the University
9 of Michigan Alumni Association, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the San
10 Antonio Area Retired Teachers Association, the Eastside Optimist
11 Club, the National Council of Negro Women, and the Prudence Curry
12 Society, among many other affiliations; she was an individual of
13 strong religious faith as well, serving as a deacon at First
14 Presbyterian Church of San Antonio; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Stevenson's achievements earned her many
16 awards and recognitions, including the 2008 Service Award from
17 Carver Volunteers, the 2007 African American Reflections Sojourner
18 Truth Advocacy Award, the 1993 Top Ladies of Distinction Volunteer
19 Service Award, and a Curry Award from the United Negro College Fund;
20 moreover, she was a 2002 inductee into the San Antonio Women's Hall
21 of Fame and the recipient of a Headliner Award from the Association
22 for Women in Communications; and

23 WHEREAS, A devoted wife and mother, a dedicated educator, and
24 a committed volunteer and civic leader, Henrietta Stevenson lived a
25 caring and purposeful life, and her legacy will continue to inspire
26 all those who knew and loved her; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas

1 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Henrietta Eugene
2 Roberts Stevenson and extend sincere condolences to the members of
3 her family: to her daughter, Maria Stevenson Greene; to her son,
4 Ernest Stevenson Qadimasil; to her granddaughters, Yasmeeen
5 Qadimasil and Mona McCoy and her husband, Michael, as well as Mona's
6 father, Monty Greene; to her grandsons, Ernest Qadimasil III and
7 Taj Qadimasil, and their mother, Judy Ponder; to her
8 great-grandchildren, Myles Stevenson McCoy and Madison Jones
9 McCoy; and to her other relatives and friends; and, be it further
10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
12 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Henrietta
13 Stevenson.

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