

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 657

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Diana
2 Kirby of Rockport, who passed away on February 10, 2011, at the age
3 of 53; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Fairbanks, Alaska, Diana Maria Kirby grew up
5 in Memphis, Tennessee, and Irving; she earned a bachelor's degree
6 in history from Memphis State University and a master's degree in
7 education counseling from Corpus Christi State University; she also
8 did graduate work in public history at the University of Houston;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Kirby was able to turn her love of history into a
11 career, and she worked at museums and historic sites for three
12 decades; in 1984, she moved to Rockport to serve as the curator at
13 the Fulton Mansion State Historic Site and she was promoted to
14 director soon thereafter; in 2008, her expertise and experience
15 were rewarded when she was promoted to historic site supervisor for
16 the Texas Historical Commission, and she divided her time between
17 Rockport and Austin; in her new position, she was responsible for
18 overseeing 10 sites around the state, including the Fulton Mansion,
19 the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, the Sam
20 Rayburn House Museum in Bonham, and the Varner-Hogg Plantation in
21 West Columbia; and

22 WHEREAS, Ms. Kirby loved to travel with family and friends
23 and enjoyed trips to Europe and Canada as well as antiquing jaunts
24 around Texas; she was known for her warm and giving nature and was

1 an excellent listener who could always be counted on to give wise
2 and caring advice; and

3 WHEREAS, Greatly admired for her dedication to the rich
4 history of the Lone Star State, Diana Kirby made a positive
5 difference in the lives of countless people, and she has left behind
6 a legacy that will continue to resonate for years to come; now,
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Diana Maria Kirby
10 and extend sincere condolences to the members of her family: to her
11 life partner of 25 years, Ruth Davis; to her mother, Jen Kirby; to
12 her stepmother, Sandra Kirby; to her brothers, Tony Kirby and
13 Richard "Sam" Kirby and his wife, Leigh; to her sister, Donna
14 Barnett, and her husband, Donald; to her stepbrother, Steve Bell;
15 and to her other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

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