

By: Anderson of McLennan

H.R. No. 868

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and  
2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends  
3 of Gail Coker of Waco, who passed away on March 5, 2011; and

4           WHEREAS, A native of Roanoke, Virginia, Ms. Coker was born on  
5 April 15, 1947, to Joseph and Grace Jamison; she earned her  
6 bachelor's degree from Carson-Newman College and her master's  
7 degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; and

8           WHEREAS, Ms. Coker began her notable career at First Baptist  
9 Church in Waco, where she served as director of childhood education  
10 for eight years; she went on to teach at St. Paul's Episcopal Day  
11 School before joining the staff at Baylor University; during her  
12 distinguished 25-year tenure with the institution, she worked in  
13 the graduate school office, at Piper Child Development Center, and  
14 in the acquisitions department of Moody Memorial Library; in 1993,  
15 Baylor named her an Alumna by Choice; and

16           WHEREAS, Active in her community of faith, Ms. Coker was a  
17 valued member of Columbus Avenue Baptist Church; she served as a  
18 department director and part-time preschool division director at  
19 the house of worship, and, together with her husband, she taught  
20 preschool for 14 years; in addition, she led preschool Sunday  
21 school training conferences and vacation Bible school clinics in  
22 Texas, Oklahoma, and California, and she later developed preschool  
23 Sunday school curriculum for the Southern Baptist Convention; and

24           WHEREAS, Ms. Coker was also a dedicated supporter of the

1 Susan G. Komen Foundation Race for the Cure in Waco, and through the  
2 years of her involvement, she recruited team members, worked with  
3 corporate sponsors, and co-chaired survivor celebration events;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, In all of her endeavors, Ms. Coker was supported by a  
6 loving family that included her husband, David, her son, Jeff, and  
7 her daughter, Allison; and

8 WHEREAS, Those fortunate enough to have known Gail Coker will  
9 forever treasure their memories of this dynamic woman, whose faith  
10 and dedication to others made a positive difference in the lives of  
11 countless individuals; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Gail Coker and extend  
14 deepest sympathy to the members of her family: to her husband, David  
15 Coker; to her son, Jeff Coker; to her daughter, Allison Harvey, and  
16 her husband, Brian; to her grandson, James Harvey; to her brother,  
17 Donald Jamison, and his wife, Priscilla; to her sister, Jo Ann  
18 Webster, and her husband, Ed; and to her other relatives and many  
19 friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Gail Coker.