

By: Raymond

H.R. No. 1068

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to
2 a close when Barbara Ann Kazen of Laredo passed away on March 15,
3 2011, at the age of 70; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Abilene on January 3, 1941, to James and
5 Virginia Lee Sanders, Barbara Sanders was raised in Albany and
6 Texarkana and attended Texas Christian University before
7 transferring to The University of Texas at Austin; while there, she
8 met George Kazen, and the two were married in Abilene on October 27,
9 1961; and

10 WHEREAS, After moving to Laredo, Mrs. Kazen studied
11 journalism and communications at Laredo Junior College and later
12 took courses in food and beverage management, becoming well known
13 for her catering skills; she was a host, producer, and commentator
14 for a television station in the 1970s, and then turned her attention
15 to philanthropic and nonprofit activities; and

16 WHEREAS, Mrs. Kazen was on the board of Bethany House, a local
17 mission providing food and shelter to those in need, for more than
18 25 years, and she served as the organization's president from 1996
19 until her death; under her leadership, Bethany House received a
20 grant of nearly \$800,000 toward the forthcoming Center for Hope,
21 which will bring new housing units and expanded services; and

22 WHEREAS, A member of the Laredo Federal Emergency Management
23 Agency board of directors, Mrs. Kazen was also a founder and charter
24 member of the Laredo Homeless Coalition and served on the boards of

1 the United Way of Laredo and the Texas Homeless Network; she helped
2 create the South Texas Food Bank's "Kids Cafes," which provide free
3 meals and snacks to low-income children, and she further shared her
4 time and talents with the Women's City Club, the Mercy Regional
5 Medical Center Auxiliary, the local Rotary Club, and numerous other
6 civic and arts associations; moreover, Mrs. Kazen participated in
7 the Society of Martha Washington, and she enjoyed fellowship at the
8 Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, which she served as a lector and
9 Eucharistic minister; in recognition of her contributions to the
10 community, she received numerous awards and honors from
11 organizations such as the Laredo Commission for Women, the League
12 of United Latin American Citizens, the Catholic War Veterans, and
13 the Laredo March of Dimes; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition to her many endeavors, Mrs. Kazen
15 supported her husband in his work as a federal judge, and their life
16 together was enriched by their four children, George, John,
17 Elizabeth, and Gregory; and

18 WHEREAS, Through her diligent and compassionate service in
19 behalf of the homeless and those in need, Barbara Kazen changed many
20 lives for the better, and she will be remembered with great
21 admiration and affection by all who were privileged to know her;
22 now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
24 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Barbara Ann Kazen and
25 extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her
26 husband, the Honorable George P. Kazen; to her children, George D.
27 Kazen and his wife, Mary, John A. Kazen and his wife, Hayley,

1 Elizabeth A. Flores and her husband, Michael, and Gregory S. Kazen
2 and his wife, Marcinda; to her brother, James Lee Sanders; to her
3 sisters, Judith Compton and her husband, Edward, and Virginia Dotin
4 and her husband, Larry; to her nine grandchildren; and to her other
5 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
8 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Barbara
9 Kazen.