

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 1498

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Debra  
2 Ann Sontag of Del Rio, who passed away on March 6, 2011, at the age  
3 of 46; and

4           WHEREAS, The daughter of Barbara and Richard Beakley, the  
5 former Deb Beakley was born on April 16, 1964, in Barranquilla,  
6 Colombia, where her father was working as a seismologist; the  
7 family returned to Texas and she excelled in track at Bandera High  
8 School; after attending The University of Texas at Austin and North  
9 Texas State University, she worked for attorneys and legislators as  
10 a paralegal; she later accepted a key position with Hewitt  
11 Associates in Irvine, California, but ultimately heeded the call of  
12 her beloved Texas and settled near family in Del Rio; and

13           WHEREAS, While working as a hostess at Avanti Italian  
14 Restaurant, she met Bill Sontag, who was captivated by her sunny  
15 disposition and ready smile; the couple married on April 22, 2006,  
16 in Polly's Chapel, a historic stone sanctuary near her family's  
17 ranch; and

18           WHEREAS, Ms. Sontag worked at a number of Del Rio businesses,  
19 including the Brown Bag, Cafe Centrale, Russell Hardware, San  
20 Felipe Country Club, and Lake Amistad Resort & Marina; a talented  
21 cook, she wrote a popular monthly column for *Southwest Texas Live!*  
22 magazine that included her own recipes and those of other local  
23 cooks and noted chefs; and

24           WHEREAS, Unfailingly kind, Ms. Sontag endeared herself to

1 innumerable people through her gentle and generous nature, as well  
2 as her vivacious personality, and she sought to bring harmony to  
3 every situation; moreover, she loved animals and showered her  
4 golden retrievers with affection; and

5 WHEREAS, Debbie Sontag brought great joy to others, and those  
6 she leaves behind will forever cherish their memories of time spent  
7 in the company of this warm and gracious woman; now, therefore, be  
8 it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Debra Ann Sontag and  
11 extend sincere condolences to the members of her family: to her  
12 husband, Bill Sontag; to her mother, Barbara Beakley; to her  
13 brothers, John Beakley and his wife, Laura, Richard Beakley and his  
14 wife, Sheila, and James Beakley and his wife, Heidi; to her aunts  
15 and uncles, John and Dale Focke, Jeanne Davis, and Julian and Norma  
16 Gomez; to her stepchildren, Rob Sontag and his wife, Marci, and  
17 their children, Maddie and Ryan Sontag, and Debb Scott and her  
18 husband, Luke; to her sister-in-law, Kathy Beck; and to her many  
19 other relatives and 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 Debra Ann  
23 Sontag.