

By: Hopson

H.R. No. 1657

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Countless lives were touched by the kindness and  
2 generosity of Lafonda Ann Davis of Austin, who passed away on May 4,  
3 2010, at the age of 68; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Uriel Addison Randolph and Vannie  
5 Lee Culpepper, the former Lafonda Randolph was born in Bowie on  
6 April 16, 1942, and grew up in neighboring Montague; she attended  
7 public schools in Saint Jo, Nocona, Sherman, and Bowie and received  
8 special instruction in horticulture from her father, a researcher  
9 at Texas A&M University, who instilled in her a lifelong love of  
10 plants and gardening; her education continued at North Texas State  
11 University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in elementary  
12 education and a master's degree in education; and

13 WHEREAS, This dedicated teacher worked in a number of schools  
14 around the world following her marriage to Carl David Clark, a  
15 member of the United States Air Force, in 1962; they raised three  
16 children and eventually settled in Fairfax, Virginia, where she was  
17 highly respected for her skill in the classroom and gave freely of  
18 her time and talents as a mentor to her students and a volunteer in  
19 professional associations; after Mr. Clark's death in 1996, she was  
20 fortunate to find love a second time with Jim Davis, and they were  
21 married in 1998; the couple moved to Austin in 2005; and

22 WHEREAS, Devoted to her extended family, Mrs. Davis provided  
23 steadfast support and encouragement to 7 children and 10  
24 grandchildren; she made every holiday and event a very special

1 occasion and especially delighted in the warmth and fellowship of  
2 Christmas; a woman of great faith, she expressed her beliefs in song  
3 as a member of several ensembles, among them the Sweet Spirit  
4 Singers, and recordings she made with that group enabled her lovely  
5 voice to be heard at her own funeral; and

6 WHEREAS, Lafonda Davis inspired many people with her grace,  
7 strength, and resilience, and those who were privileged to share in  
8 her love and affection will forever cherish their memories of time  
9 spent in her company; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Lafonda Ann Davis and  
12 extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her  
13 husband, Jim Davis; to her children, Jeffrey David Clark, Shannon  
14 Lee Gatlin and her husband, Jim, Tamara Ann Egli and her husband,  
15 Dave, Angelia Kay Hennessey and her husband, Mike, Michele Ann  
16 Hitti and her husband, William, Chad Allen Davis, and Eric Lynn  
17 Davis; to her grandchildren, Hayden, Wyatt, Olivia, Gregory, Leah,  
18 Megan, Shanna, Rory, Michael, and Tony; to her sister, Virginia Lee  
19 Pollard, and her husband, Rex; and to her other relatives and  
20 friends; and, be it further

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