

By: Anderson of McLennan

H.R. No. 1939

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Betty Ruth Ritterhoff Armstrong of Waco on April 3, 2011,
3 at the age of 92; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Chicago on October 10, 1918, the former
5 Betty Ritterhoff was the daughter of Henry and Edith Ritterhoff;
6 she attended schools in New York and Chicago, where she met her
7 future husband, Edward LaVerne Armstrong; the couple married in
8 Wollaston, Massachusetts, on August 31, 1940, and later became the
9 parents of two children, James and Richard; they moved to
10 Weatherford in 1951; and

11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Armstrong was employed for 30 years as
12 secretary of Grace First Presbyterian Church, where she became an
13 ordained elder; she served as president of Presbyterian Women and
14 was presented with a life membership; in addition, she led Circle
15 Bible Studies, taught Sunday school, and visited the homebound and
16 residents of nursing homes; and

17 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to her community, Mrs. Armstrong
18 was a member and officer of the PTA and chaired the committee that
19 developed a public library for children; later, she helped organize
20 the Friends of the Weatherford Library and served as membership
21 chair; she became one of the first volunteers for Meals on Wheels,
22 serving a regular weekly route for many years; and

23 WHEREAS, In the early 1980s, Mrs. Armstrong played a key role
24 in the establishment of Manna Storehouse, Inc., a nonprofit food

1 pantry and supply house; she was a strong advocate and active
2 volunteer for the organization, assisting clients and serving the
3 board as corresponding secretary; in her nineties she moved to Waco
4 and continued to volunteer in the community as her health
5 permitted; and

6 WHEREAS, The numerous accolades granted Mrs. Armstrong
7 include the 1998 Governor's Volunteer Award; she was recognized as
8 one of President George H. W. Bush's "Thousand Points of Light" and
9 was named Outstanding Woman of the Southwest by the Presbyterian
10 Women of Grace First Presbyterian; and

11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Armstrong enjoyed traveling with her husband in
12 their retirement years and camping and fishing both in Texas and
13 around the country; she was gifted at needlework and even more
14 talented in crocheting afghans; and

15 WHEREAS, Betty Armstrong expressed her faith by helping
16 others with tireless dedication, and she made a lasting, positive
17 difference in her community; although she will be deeply missed by
18 those she leaves behind, they will forever remember her kindness
19 and devotion; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
21 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Betty Ruth Ritterhoff
22 Armstrong and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family:
23 to her sons, Jim Armstrong and his wife, Patricia, and Dick
24 Armstrong and his wife, Jessica; to her grandchildren, Katherine
25 Armstrong and her partner, Kiki, Jennifer Stetler, Stacy Armstrong,
26 Alana Armstrong, Christopher Armstrong and his wife, Beth, Brian
27 Armstrong and his wife, Tori, Matthew Armstrong, Jonathan

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1 Armstrong, and Luke Armstrong; to her great-grandchildren,
2 Michael, Hunter, and William Armstrong and Abigayle and Joe
3 Stetler; and to her other relatives and friends; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
6 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Betty Ruth
7 Ritterhoff Armstrong.