

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 116

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Newspaper publisher and journalist Beverly Karen
2 Carter of Fort Bend County, who benefited her fellow citizens with
3 her devotion to the greater good, passed away on July 6, 2013, at
4 the age of 72; and

5 WHEREAS, Born to J. C. and Beatrice Carter on April 9, 1941,
6 Bev Carter grew up in Ballinger with the companionship of a younger
7 brother, Vance; she graduated from Texas Tech University and worked
8 as a teacher for more than a decade; at both Alief Hastings and
9 Elsik High Schools, she taught English and sponsored the student
10 newspaper, the drama club, and the bowling team; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Carter dreamed of owning and operating a
12 community newspaper, and in 1978, she moved to Fort Bend County
13 determined to do just that; she founded the *Fort Bend Star* that same
14 year with the goal of providing area residents the knowledge and
15 information needed to hold their elected officials accountable; she
16 and her staff pounded the pavement in search of news, visiting
17 government offices and beer joints alike, and their in-depth
18 reporting became a signature of the paper; and

19 WHEREAS, Renamed the *Fort Bend/Southwest Star*, the paper
20 established itself as an important and respected voice within the
21 county, and Ms. Carter earned numerous state and national awards
22 for her work; she and her son, Michael, started the *Fort Bend*
23 *Business Journal* in 1982, and in the early 1990s, she ventured into
24 television with the Fort Bend Community TV cable cast; her

1 daughter, Sherry, managed the station, which aired city council and
2 county commissioners court meetings; and

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Carter shared her unabashed opinions on
4 politics, current affairs, and other matters in her weekly column,
5 "Bev's Burner"; driven by a strong sense of duty to public
6 integrity, she had a no-holds-barred approach, and she remained
7 fiercely passionate about her cause; her status as a local icon
8 caught the attention of national news programs, and she was invited
9 to share her insights with the nation in interviews on *48 Hours* and
10 *60 Minutes*; and

11 WHEREAS, Bev Carter left an unmistakable mark on Fort Bend
12 County with her energy, initiative, and bold commitment to her
13 principles, and she leaves behind a legacy that will continue to
14 resonate for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
16 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
17 Beverly Karen Carter and extend deepest sympathy to the members of
18 her family: to her son, Michael Fredrickson, and his wife, Lisa; to
19 her grandchildren, Kathryn, Carter, and Jack; and to her other
20 relatives and 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 Beverly
24 Karen Carter.