

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of El Paso and beyond are mourning the
2 passing of Rochelle Nieman, the co-founder and co-pastor of
3 Abundant Living Faith Center, on December 30, 2012, at the age of
4 61; and

5 WHEREAS, Originally from Raton, New Mexico, Rochelle Nieman
6 moved to El Paso in 1968 to study at The University of Texas; there
7 she met her future husband, Charles Nieman, with whom she would go
8 on to share 42 years; and

9 WHEREAS, The couple began a small, home-based Bible study in
10 1977 that soon began meeting in a railroad union hall to accommodate
11 growth; within a few years, the church was well on its way to
12 becoming the major ministry it is today; with some 25,000 members,
13 Abundant Living Faith Center is considered El Paso's first
14 mega-church; and

15 WHEREAS, Pastor Nieman held an equal leadership role in the
16 church with her husband at a time when that was uncommon for women,
17 and she was a trailblazer for countless women of faith over the
18 course of her ministry; among her many responsibilities, she
19 directed the church administration, led the women's ministry, and
20 regularly taught the congregation during its weekly service;
21 moreover, she founded and served as superintendent of Faith
22 Christian Academy; and

23 WHEREAS, This esteemed clergywoman also oversaw numerous
24 ALFC outreach efforts, including two weekly food pantries, annual

1 back-to-school and holiday toy giveaways, basic training classes,
2 and a disaster assistance program, and with her husband, she taught
3 at leadership conferences throughout the United States and around
4 the globe; and

5 WHEREAS, Known for her optimism and zest for life, Pastor
6 Nieman strived to give her all in each of her many roles; she was the
7 devoted mother of two children, Shannon and Jared, and she took
8 great joy in welcoming two grandchildren, Caleb and Emery, into her
9 family; and

10 WHEREAS, Rochelle Nieman loved the challenges and
11 opportunities of guiding a large church and carrying its message to
12 the world, and she leaves behind a legacy that will be forever
13 treasured by all those whose lives she touched; now, therefore, be
14 it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
16 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Rochelle Nieman and
17 extend sincere condolences to the members of her family: to her
18 husband, Pastor Charles Nieman; to her children and their spouses,
19 Shannon Nieman Elias and Matthew Elias and Jared and Karla Nieman;
20 to her grandchildren, Caleb Nieman and Emery Rochelle Nieman Elias;
21 and to her other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
3 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Pastor
4 Rochelle Nieman.

Moody
Pickett
Marquez
N. Gonzalez of El Paso
M. Gonzalez of El Paso

Straus	M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira
Allen	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Alonzo	Gooden	Otto
Alvarado	Guerra	Paddie
Anchia	Guillen	Parker
Anderson	Gutierrez	Patrick
Ashby	Harless	Perez
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Perry
Bell	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bohac	Herrero	Pickett
Bonnen of Brazoria	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Galveston	Howard	Price
Branch	Huberty	Raney
Burkett	Hughes	Ratliff
Burnam	Hunter	Raymond
Button	Isaac	Reynolds
Callegari	Johnson	Riddle
Canales	Kacal	Ritter
Capriglione	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Carter	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Clardy	King of Parker	Rose
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sanford
Collier	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Cook	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cortez	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Craddick	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Creighton	Krause	Simmons
Crownover	Kuempel	Simpson
Dale	Larson	Smith
Darby	Laubenberg	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Deshotel	Longoria	Strama
Dukes	Lozano	Taylor
Dutton	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Eiland	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez	Toth
Fallon	Martinez Fischer	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 410 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 28, 2013.

Chief Clerk of the House