

By: Bohac

H.R. No. 1985

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 Dorothy Jean Bettencourt of Houston on February 20,  
3 2012, at the age of 83; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Houston on January 8, 1929, the former  
5 Dorothy Fisk was the daughter of Marcus Henry Fisk and Mary Lucye  
6 Fisk; her ancestors included two Mayflower passengers and an early  
7 Texas colonist, Joses Hobdy, who fought for independence from  
8 Mexico; and

9 WHEREAS, She graduated from John H. Reagan High School, where  
10 she was a member of the Reagan RedCoats drill team; during World War  
11 II, when a car with sufficient gas could be found, she drove around  
12 with her friends and her adventurous grandmother, Carrie, looking  
13 for leg makeup to simulate war-rationed nylon stockings; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Bettencourt worked for the Tennessee Gas  
15 Transmission Company before her marriage to Henry "Hank"  
16 Bettencourt, Jr., in 1955; she became the mother of two sons, Mark  
17 and Paul, and made a loving home for her family in a succession of  
18 cities, including Los Angeles and San Marino, California, Cherry  
19 Hill, New Jersey, and New Orleans, Louisiana; after Mr. Bettencourt  
20 retired from the Shell Oil Company, they returned to Houston, and  
21 Mrs. Bettencourt enjoyed working for several years as a real estate  
22 agent for Coldwell Banker; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1991, Mr. Bettencourt passed away; Mrs.  
24 Bettencourt maintained her friendships with friends from Shell and

1 attended many gatherings of the Shell Retirees; fortunate enough to  
2 find love a second time, she married Eugene Clay in 1999 and they  
3 shared six years together before his death in 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, The proud grandmother of three, Mrs. Bettencourt  
5 took her family on wonderful vacations and had grand times in New  
6 Orleans; she liked playing video poker, gin rummy, solitaire, and  
7 bridge, and she was always certain the next hand would be "a  
8 barnburner"; in addition to reading several books a week, she  
9 followed politics, and she relished a witty one-liner; and

10 WHEREAS, Those privileged to have known Dorothy Bettencourt  
11 will long remember her warm and endearing ways, and she will forever  
12 hold a treasured place in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dorothy Jean  
15 Bettencourt and extend sincere condolences to the members of her  
16 family: to her sons, Mark H. Bettencourt and his wife, Sara, and  
17 Paul Bettencourt and his wife, Susan; to her grandchildren,  
18 Christina, Henry, and Michael Bettencourt; and to her other  
19 relatives and many 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 Dorothy  
23 Bettencourt.