

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 2318

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Paula Jay is retiring as head of the English
2 department at Elkins High School in Missouri City at the end of the
3 2012-2013 school year, drawing to a close a distinguished career in
4 education that has spanned three and a half decades; and

5 WHEREAS, A graduate of Hondo High School, Ms. Jay attended
6 Texas A&I University in Kingsville and taught high school in
7 Robstown and Tuloso-Midway before returning to Texas A&I to earn
8 her master's degree in English; in 1983, she joined the faculty of
9 Willowridge High School in Houston, where she was recognized as
10 teacher of the year; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Jay assisted in the establishment of Elkins High
12 School in 1992, and she has served as chair of the English
13 department for the past 21 years; known for her dedication to her
14 students and her tireless work to create a positive learning
15 environment, she created the school's English Honor Society, which
16 recently became a chapter of the National English Honor Society,
17 and she has sponsored many student groups at the school, including
18 University Interscholastic League competitors in spelling,
19 literary criticism, ready writing, current events, and journalism;
20 in addition, she started the Academic Decathlon at Elkins, and
21 under her guidance her students have excelled, even winning
22 back-to-back state championships in 1995 and 1996, a feat no other
23 school in the state had previously achieved; an inspiring and
24 dynamic teacher, Ms. Jay has been honored multiple times during her

1 tenure at Elkins, including by being named the school's Teacher of
2 the Year in 1995-1996, when she was a district finalist for that
3 honor as well; and

4 WHEREAS, In retirement, Ms. Jay looks forward to reading and
5 spending time with her two daughters and her first grandson, Mason;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, During her 35 years as an educator, Paula Jay has
8 demonstrated an unwavering commitment to her students, and she may
9 indeed reflect with pride on her accomplishments as she embarks on
10 the next exciting chapter of her life; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
12 Legislature hereby congratulate Paula Jay on the occasion of her
13 retirement and extend to her sincere best wishes for happiness in
14 the years ahead; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for Ms. Jay as an expression of high regard by the Texas
17 House of Representatives.