H.R. No. 479

## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The life of a respected educator and labor leader 2 drew to a close with the passing of Linda Bridges of Austin on 3 January 13, 2015, at the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges began her notable career 4 as an 5 elementary special education teacher in the Corpus Christi Independent School District; she later became a charter member of 6 the Corpus Christi American Federation of Teachers and went on to 7 serve the organization as president for nearly a quarter-century; 8 9 in that role, she helped develop the process of elected consultation, which enables district faculty and staff members to 10 11 elect an organization to represent them in discussions with the 12 administration regarding wages, benefits, and working conditions, and that innovative system was quickly adopted by other districts 13 14 throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her outstanding efforts with the 15 16 local union, Ms. Bridges served the Texas chapter of the AFT as chair of the legislative committee and as a member of the executive 17 committee and the executive council; her incisive leadership was 18 rewarded with her election as president of the state chapter in 19 2005, and over the course of her decade-long tenure, she worked 20 21 tirelessly in behalf of millions of Texas students and played an instrumental part in expanding the organization's membership from 22 23 48,000 to more than 65,000; she also served the federation at the national level as vice president, as chair of the subcommittee on 24

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1 nonbargaining states, and as a member of the organizing and 2 advisory committees; and

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges gave generously of her time and talents 4 to a number of other organizations as well, serving as vice 5 president and as a trustee of the Texas AFL-CIO, as president of the 6 Coastal Bend Labor Council, as a director of the United Way of the 7 Coastal Bend, as chair of the Juvenile Assessment Center, and as a 8 regent of Del Mar College; and

9 WHEREAS, A woman of great vision and integrity, Linda Bridges 10 benefited the lives of countless students and teachers through her 11 immeasurable contributions to public education in Texas, and her 12 achievements will continue to resonate for years to come; now, 13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas 15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Linda Bridges and 16 extend sincere sympathy to all those who mourn her passing; and, be 17 it further

18 RESOLVED, That when the Texas House of Representatives 19 adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Linda Bridges.

> Herrero Hunter Howard

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Straus Allen Alonzo Alvarado Anchia Anderson of Dallas Anderson of McLennan Ashby Aycock Bell Bernal Blanco Bohac Bonnen of Brazoria Bonnen of Galveston Burkett Burns Burrows Button Canales Capriglione Clardy Coleman Collier Cook Craddick Crownover Cyrier Dale Darby Davis of Dallas Davis of Harris Deshotel Dukes Dutton Elkins Faircloth Fallon Farias Farney Farrar Fletcher Flynn Frank Frullo Galindo Geren Giddings Goldman Gonzales

González Guerra Guillen Gutierrez Harless Hernandez Herrero Howard Huberty Hughes Hunter Isaac Israel Johnson Kacal Keffer Keough King of Hemphill King of Parker King of Taylor King of Uvalde Klick Коор Krause Kuempel Landgraf Larson Laubenberg Leach Longoria Lozano Lucio III Márquez Martinez Martinez Fischer McClendon Metcalf Meyer Miles Miller of Comal Miller of Fort Bend Moody Morrison Muñoz, Jr. Murphy Murr Naishtat Nevárez Oliveira Otto

Paddie Parker Paul Peña Phelan Phillips Pickett Price Raney Raymond Reynolds Riddle Rinaldi Rodriguez of Bexar Rodriguez of Travis Romero, Jr. Rose Sanford Schaefer Schofield Schubert Shaheen Sheets Sheffield Simmons Simpson Smith Smithee Spitzer Springer Stephenson Stickland Thompson of Brazoria Thompson of Harris Tinderholt Turner of Collin Turner of Harris Turner of Tarrant VanDeaver Villalba Vo Walle White of Bell White of Tyler Workman Wray Wu Zedler Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 479 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 5, 2015.

Chief Clerk of the House