

By: Huberty

H.R. No. 539

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Esteemed educator Dr. Jane Nelson of Dolen made a
2 lasting positive impact on the Humble Independent School District
3 during her lifetime, and her passing on November 1, 2014, at the age
4 of 79 deeply saddened the entire community; and

5 WHEREAS, In the early 1970s, Dr. Nelson was hired by the
6 district to help administer new requirements for special education,
7 and in 1975, she was appointed as the founding principal of Woodland
8 Hills Elementary School in Kingwood; she assembled a capable and
9 cohesive team there, and four years later she was chosen to open
10 another new school, Oaks Elementary; subsequently, she was selected
11 as principal of North Belt Elementary School; throughout her
12 career, she was a fierce champion for students and a wonderful
13 mentor to her staff, yet she never hesitated to make the tough
14 choices required to improve the quality of instruction; and

15 WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan retired from the district in
16 1995, but she continued to work in behalf of public education as an
17 advocate at the State Capitol, and she served as president of the
18 Humble Area Retired Teachers Association; moreover, she was a
19 charter member of both the Lambda Delta and Mu Pi Chapters of Delta
20 Kappa Gamma Society International, and she was the inaugural
21 president of Mu Pi; she received the Chapter Achievement and State
22 Achievement Awards for distinguished service, and a state
23 scholarship was named for her; in addition, the cafeteria at Oaks
24 Elementary was designated Nelson Hall in her honor; she was a Life

1 Member of the PTA and of the National Elementary Principal
2 Association; she further benefited her fellow citizens as a member
3 of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature and the Cleveland Women's
4 Center, and she was a member of Dolen Baptist Church; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in 1935, the former Patricia Jane Hooks grew up
6 on Houston's Northside; she studied history and political science
7 at the University of Houston, earning both bachelor's and master's
8 degrees; after teaching high school social studies in Cleveland,
9 she completed a second master's degree in psychology and counseling
10 at Adams State University in Colorado, and she later received her
11 doctorate; and

12 WHEREAS, Through her tireless endeavors to benefit young
13 Texans and her commitment to public education, Jane Nelson earned
14 the lasting respect and admiration of all who were fortunate enough
15 to know her, and her contributions to the Humble Independent School
16 District will continue to resonate for many years to come; now,
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Jane Nelson and
20 extend sincere condolences to the members of her family: to her son,
21 David Kirkham, and her stepchildren, Darcy Nelson Shackelford and
22 Lance Edward Nelson; to her grandchildren, Angela Kirkham Sheets,
23 J. W. and Hayley Kirkham, and Jon, Cara, Jeff, and Barrett
24 Shackelford; and to her great-grandchildren, Austin, Alyssa,
25 Wyatt, and Layten Sheets; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for the members of her family and that when the Texas House

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1 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Jane
2 Nelson.