By: Villalba   H.R. No. 809

R E S O L U T I O N

1   WHEREAS, A life distinguished by meaningful service drew to a
2 close when Janet Palmquist Patterson of Dallas passed away on
3 January 27, 2015, at the age of 71; and
4   WHEREAS, Born on May 21, 1943, the former Janet Palmquist
5 attended high school in Sleepy Hollow, New York, before continuing
6 her education at Beloit College, where she lettered in swimming,
7 and earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska in
8 1965; she married her high school sweetheart, Jay Patterson, with
9 whom she went on to enjoy five decades of marriage; she worked as a
10 teacher in Dallas to support him as he studied law, and he
11 ultimately became a state district judge; she subsequently devoted
12 herself full-time to her home and family, which grew to include a
13 daughter, Betsy, and a son, Jamie; and
14   WHEREAS, Mrs. Patterson later worked as a political
15 consultant, and she was a driving force in a multitude of Republican
16 organizations; a longtime member of the Texas Federation of
17 Republican Women, she held numerous leadership positions within the
18 organization, and during her term as president, she came up with the
19 idea of wearing red jackets when members visited the State Capitol
20 for their legislative day; other groups that benefited from her
21 involvement were the Lake Highlands and the Town East Republican
22 Women's Clubs and the Dallas County Council of Republican Women,
23 and she served as a regional chair and delegate to the Dallas County
24 Republican Party; and

1   WHEREAS, Jan Patterson's public-spiritedness also led her to
2 volunteer her time with the City of Dallas Plan Commission, the City
3 of Dallas Health and Human Services Commission, and the Lake
4 Highlands Women's League; her leadership was acknowledged at the
5 state level with back-to-back appointments by Governors Bill
6 Clements and George W. Bush to the Texas Board on Aging, which she
7 also served as chair; additionally, she accepted gubernatorial
8 appointments to serve as a Texas delegate to the White House
9 Conference on Families in 1980 and the White House Conference on
10 Aging in 1995; and

11   WHEREAS, Even as she battled illness near the end of her life,
12 Mrs. Patterson never lost her passion for helping others; she
13 belonged to the Order of the Daughters of the King at St. John's
14 Episcopal Church, through which she comforted and ministered to
15 other congregants and neighbors in Lake Highlands; known for her
16 warm heart, abiding faith, and ever-present smile, she freely
17 expressed affection for her family and friends that was returned
18 fully in kind, and she particularly cherished her role as "nanny" to
19 her precious grandchildren; and

20   WHEREAS, Although the passing of Jan Patterson brings great
21 sorrow, her graceful and generous spirit will remain a lasting
22 source of inspiration to all those who were fortunate enough to know
23 her; now, therefore, be it

24   RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
25 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Janet Palmquist
26 Patterson and extend sincere condolences to the members of her
27 family: to her husband, Jay Patterson; to her children, Betsy

1 Gustafson and her husband, Tory, and Jamie Patterson and his wife,

2 Julie; to her grandchildren, Cole and Claire Gustafson and McCoy

3 and Mitchell Patterson; to her siblings, Bill Patterson and his

4 wife, Chris, Dave Patterson and his wife, Cynthia, Scott Patterson,

5 Susan Bussey and her husband, Tom, Martha Hardebeck and her

6 husband, Tom, Megan Standing, Jim Cookman and his wife, Adlita,

7 Elizabeth Pletcher and her husband, Steven, and Millie Frick and

8 her husband, Bill; and to the other relatives and many friends who

9 mourn the loss of this esteemed woman; and, be it further

10   RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

11 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of

12 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jan

13 Patterson.