

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 3220

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the  
2 death of Mary Virginia Parr of Robstown on May 12, 2015, at the age  
3 of 96; and

4 WHEREAS, The former Mary Virginia Sloane was born in Estill,  
5 Mississippi, on July 22, 1918, to Albert Sloane and Virginia  
6 Adeline Meadow; when she was 10, her father died, and the family  
7 moved to Texas and settled in West Sinton in San Patricio County;  
8 after graduating from Sinton High School in 1934, she attended Mary  
9 Hardin-Baylor College for two years, earning a teaching certificate  
10 at age 18; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Sloane returned to her alma mater in West Sinton  
12 to teach English and Spanish and coach girls' basketball and  
13 tennis; during the summers, she continued her education at the  
14 University of Mississippi and the Texas College of Arts and  
15 Industries, earning a master's degree in English and Spanish; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1940, she exchanged vows with W. Robert Parr of  
17 Robstown, beginning a marriage that ultimately spanned 70 years  
18 before Mr. Parr passed away in 2011; the couple became the parents  
19 of three children, Robert, Earl, and Sylvia, and with the passing  
20 decades, the family grew to include two additional generations; and

21 WHEREAS, During World War II, Mrs. Parr worked as a teacher  
22 and managed her husband's farm until he returned from his military  
23 service in 1945; after the war, the couple founded the Parr Block  
24 Company in Corpus Christi and operated it for four decades, and

1 Mrs. Parr continued to teach occasionally in Robstown; and

2 WHEREAS, Throughout her life, this caring individual was  
3 active in her community, attending First United Methodist Church  
4 and helping to found the Robstown Garden Club; she took delight in  
5 fishing, gardening, and playing bridge, as well as flower arranging  
6 and needlework; and

7 WHEREAS, Mary Parr was an energetic and independent woman who  
8 established a legacy of strength, courage, and deep compassion for  
9 others that will continue to inspire all those who knew and loved  
10 her; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Mary Virginia Parr and  
13 extend sincere condolences to the members of her family: to her  
14 sons, Robert Parr and his wife, Dilek, and Earl Parr; to her  
15 daughter, Sylvia Parr Harding; to her grandchildren, Aysel Heckel,  
16 Tesha Soloman, Robbie Parr, Shelia Cann, Jeremy Parr, Alyne  
17 Harding, and Nikki Parr; to her great-grandchildren, Ayse, Shenia,  
18 and Sean Heckel, Alev Parr, Liam Parr, Joshua Parr, Evan Parr,  
19 Violet Cann, Stella Cann, Virginia Lorelei Harding, and Richard  
20 Bryce Grant III; and to her other relatives and friends; and, be it  
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
24 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Mary  
25 Virginia Parr.