

By: Phillips

H.R. No. 3416

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Bonnie Sue Pierson of Austin on June 2, 2014, at the age
3 of 70; and

4 WHEREAS, The former Bonnie Collins was born in Corsicana to
5 Reba and Bill Collins on November 4, 1943; a member of the Alvin
6 High School Class of 1961, she graduated with bachelor's degrees in
7 English and French from Sam Houston State University and
8 subsequently earned a master's degree in guidance and counseling
9 from the University of Houston in 1968; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Pierson began her career in education as a
11 teacher at Cy-Fair High School and went on to work as a school
12 counselor for the Cypress-Fairbanks, Del Valle, Eanes, and Austin
13 Independent School Districts; she loved working with students of
14 all ages and also enjoyed mentoring younger counselors; deservedly
15 named an Outstanding Counselor in Texas, she served her
16 professional community as president of the Texas Counseling
17 Association, and she played an instrumental role in the passage of
18 the Licensed Professional Counselor Act, which established
19 licensure for professional counselors and was signed into law by
20 Governor Bill Clements in 1981; moreover, she earned the singular
21 distinction of becoming the first licensed professional counselor
22 in the state; she retired in 2010; and

23 WHEREAS, This esteemed woman married Benny Pierson in 1970
24 and became stepmother to his three children, Kitty, Richard, and

1 Ben; Ms. Pierson later knew the joy of welcoming into her family
2 four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; she also found
3 great comfort in her faith, and she was an active member of Westlake
4 Hills Presbyterian Church; and

5 WHEREAS, Bonnie Pierson left an indelible imprint on the
6 lives of countless individuals, and the generosity, optimism, and
7 integrity with which she lived her life will forever inspire all
8 those who had the good fortune to know her; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Bonnie Sue Pierson and
11 extend sincere condolences to the members of her family: to her
12 stepchildren, Kitty Hicks and Richard Pierson and his wife,
13 Kathryn; to her stepdaughter-in-law, Becky Pierson; to her
14 grandchildren, Luke Pierson, Lindsey Wilson and her husband, Billy,
15 Evan Pierson, and Ashlie Morrison; to her great-grandchildren,
16 Garrett and Kaleigh Hicks and David Morrison-Heird; to her aunt,
17 Evelyn Smith; to her cousins, Sue Wilson, David Lee Wiggington,
18 Pete Wiggington, and Carol Joy Bailey; and to her other relatives
19 and many friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bonnie
23 Pierson.