

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life lived with joy and purpose came to an untimely
2 end with the passing of Jana Graves Kennedy of Paris on May 20,
3 2017, at the age of 54; and

4 WHEREAS, The former Jana Graves was born to Faye and James
5 Graves on August 14, 1962, in Paris, where she grew up with her
6 sister, Jeri, and her brother, Russell; a member of the North Lamar
7 High School Class of 1980, she earned a track scholarship to attend
8 Texas A&M University and went on to complete a bachelor's degree in
9 elementary education; possessed of a kind disposition and a genuine
10 love of children, she made a positive difference in the lives of
11 countless young Texans during her many years as an elementary
12 school teacher in Texarkana and Paris; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1985, she exchanged wedding vows with another
14 Paris native, Mike Kennedy, and after living in Texarkana for a
15 time, the couple returned to their hometown to be closer to their
16 families; over the years, they were blessed with three treasured
17 children, Kara, Cole, and Kyle; and

18 WHEREAS, A devout Christian, Ms. Kennedy exemplified the
19 ideals of her faith through her commitment to serving others; she
20 gave generously of her time and energy to the Angel Fund, a
21 Texarkana organization that provides support for cancer patients,
22 and she also volunteered with Watersprings Ranch, a charity
23 operating residential group homes for children in need; and

24 WHEREAS, Although Jana Kennedy is deeply missed, memories of

1 her beautiful smile and her warm and caring ways remain to comfort
2 and inspire all those who were privileged to share in the richness
3 of her life; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
5 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
6 Jana Graves Kennedy and extend heartfelt sympathy to her relatives
7 and many friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jana
11 Kennedy.

VanDeaver

H.R. No. 52

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 52 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on August 15, 2017.

Chief Clerk of the House