

By: Thierry

H.R. No. 231

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The family and friends of Kristi Marie
2 Couvillon-Wise of Austin suffered an immeasurable loss with her
3 untimely passing on October 1, 2010, at the age of 36; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Donna and Paul Kreuzer and Edward
5 Couvillon, the former Kristi Couvillon was born in Texas City on
6 September 20, 1974; after graduating from Clements High School, she
7 earned her bachelor's degree at Trinity University and went on to
8 receive a master's degree in social work as well as a doctor of
9 jurisprudence with honors from The University of Texas at Austin;
10 in 2006, she married John Wise, and the couple became the proud
11 parents of a beloved baby girl, Vivienne Grace; and

12 WHEREAS, From an early age, Ms. Couvillon-Wise demonstrated
13 a strong sense of compassion that ultimately led her to devote her
14 life to helping others, first as a special education teacher and
15 later as a social worker for people living with HIV/AIDS, mental
16 illness, and drug addiction, as well as for the homeless; during her
17 distinguished career as an attorney, she represented indigent
18 clients on death row through a fellowship with the Texas Defender
19 Service, and she was also briefly employed in the Travis County
20 Attorney's Office before opening her own criminal defense practice;
21 named to the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association Board of
22 Directors, she further contributed to her professional community as
23 president of Texas Law Fellowships and as manuscript editor for the
24 Texas Journal of Civil Liberties and Civil Rights; and

1 WHEREAS, In her free time, Ms. Couvillon-Wise enjoyed
2 traveling, running, listening to music of all genres, and spending
3 time in nature, and she also found great joy in caring for animals;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. Couvillon-Wise took her own life five months
6 after the birth of her daughter, and the tragic circumstances of her
7 death have since led to the founding of the Pregnancy and Postpartum
8 Health Alliance of Texas, which was established in her honor, and
9 the creation of the 2nd Postpartum Support International Traveling
10 Memory Quilt; and

11 WHEREAS, Kristi Couvillon-Wise made a positive difference in
12 countless lives, both through the love and kindness she shared with
13 her family and friends and through the work she did to help those in
14 need, and she will forever hold a treasured place in the hearts of
15 all who knew and loved her; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
17 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory
18 of Kristi Couvillon-Wise and extend sincere condolences to her
19 loved ones; 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 Kristi
23 Couvillon-Wise.