

By: Hefner

H.R. No. 928

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 admired educator Shirley Jane Sloan Hamm of Pittsburg on
3 March 7, 2017, at the age of 82; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Clarksville on June 19, 1934, she completed
5 both her bachelor's degree and her master's degree in library
6 science at East Texas State University; she married her high school
7 sweetheart, Harvey David Hamm, on August 15, 1954, and they became
8 the proud parents of two children, Harvey and Melinda; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hamm taught English in Dallas and then in
10 Pittsburg schools, where she also served as a librarian; while
11 instilling a love of language in children, she demonstrated a
12 special understanding of those who struggled for acceptance and
13 made them feel included; many of her former students kept in touch
14 through the years, and the hundreds of valentines she received from
15 them were displayed seasonally in the windows of the shop owned by
16 her daughter and son-in-law; and

17 WHEREAS, In her retirement, Mrs. Hamm continued to share her
18 love of literature with her grandchildren, Jennifer, Michael, and
19 Mitchell, and her great-grandchildren, Josie, Kenlie, Kennady,
20 Kynslee, Noah, and Keyton; she had a Kindle full of books but often
21 visited the public library with her great-grandchildren in tow, and
22 in her last days, she made sure a dear friend returned three books
23 she had checked out; when not reading, she enjoyed traveling with
24 her husband as members of the Shriner's RV Club, and the couple

1 hosted legendary Christmas breakfasts for family and friends; in
2 addition, she liked to invite friends for tea, and she beautified
3 the world around her by painting, repairing antique furniture,
4 gardening, and arranging flowers; she played a key role in the
5 continuation of the Green Thumb Garden Club and its annual flower
6 show, and, having mastered the tricky Hogarth Curve design, she won
7 many awards for her arrangements; and

8 WHEREAS, Devoted to her family, friends, and students,
9 Shirley Hamm enriched the lives of innumerable people, and those
10 who were privileged to know her will forever treasure their
11 memories of her dry wit, frankness, and wisdom; now, therefore, be
12 it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Shirley Jane Sloan
15 Hamm and extend sincere sympathy to all who mourn her passing; and,
16 be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Shirley
20 Hamm.