

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 1013

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Janice Evelyn Christiansen May of
2 Austin on July 10, 2016, at the age of 93, brought a great loss to
3 the many public officials and scholars who relied on her
4 unparalleled expertise in the vast complexities of the Texas
5 Constitution; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in Walnut Grove, Minnesota, on May 29, 1923,
7 the former Janice Christiansen earned a bachelor's degree in music
8 and master's and doctoral degrees in political science from the
9 University of Minnesota; she married statistics professor Francis
10 Barnes May in 1956, and they shared a rewarding relationship of 50
11 years before his death in 2007; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. May joined the faculty of The University of
13 Texas in 1965; she served with enormous dedication as internship
14 coordinator and, as a professor of government, she taught popular
15 simulation classes on the Texas Legislature and the state
16 constitutional convention process, becoming a beloved mentor to
17 hundreds of students and inspiring many to pursue careers in state
18 politics; and

19 WHEREAS, Widely published, Dr. May was the author of the
20 comprehensive *The Texas State Constitution: A Reference Guide*, the
21 coauthor of two editions of a *Texas Government* textbook, and the
22 author or coauthor of numerous other books, chapters, and journal
23 and reference articles; she spoke frequently at conferences and
24 other events across Texas and beyond and often advised state

1 legislatures as an expert on the constitutional amendment process;
2 in the 1970s, she played a vital role in the Texas Constitutional
3 Revision Commission; she was an election observer for ABC News as
4 well; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. May also benefited her fellow citizens as a
6 member of the League of Women Voters, serving as president of her
7 local chapter and as a member of the national board; in addition,
8 she was an active member of the American Association of University
9 Women; and

10 WHEREAS, By sharing her deep knowledge of our state's
11 political evolution, Janice May made significant contributions to
12 good governance, and her scholarly legacy will continue to enhance
13 the work of others in the years to come; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Janice Evelyn
16 Christiansen May and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn
17 her passing; and, be it further

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