86R9155 BK-D

By:  Wu H.R. No. 163

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Dr. Anh Nguyen Reiss passed away on February 26, 2016, at the age of 48 after realizing many exceptional achievements as a doctor and as an advocate for bone marrow donation; and

WHEREAS, A native of South Vietnam, Anh Reiss immigrated with her family to the United States as a young girl and grew up in New Orleans; she later relocated to Houston, where she graduated as salutatorian of North Shore Senior High School and received her undergraduate degree in economics from Rice University; after earning her medical degree cum laude from the State University of New York at Brooklyn, she began her medical practice at Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital; she went on to deliver thousands of newborns over the course of her career as an obstetrician and gynecologist, and she found great fulfillment in her work; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, Dr. Reiss was diagnosed with a myelodysplastic syndrome, a preleukemic condition that can only be cured with a bone marrow transplant; she faced great difficulty in finding a donor match, due to the fact that people of Vietnamese descent were among the least represented on the national bone marrow registry; with the support of her family, including her husband, Joshua, and two children, Alexandra and Aaron, she spread the word in the Vietnamese American community about the need for donations; the work of Dr. Reiss and her team of volunteers ultimately helped more than double the number of registered Vietnamese bone marrow donors; although Dr. Reiss succumbed to her illness before her match was found, she was instrumental in connecting numerous other patients with viable donors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Anh Reiss made a positive difference in numerous lives, and memories of her courage and commitment continue to inspire those who are carrying on her quest to promote bone marrow donation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Anh Nguyen Reiss and commend her outstanding efforts as a donation advocate; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for her family as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.