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By:  Springer H.R. No. 866

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the passing of Ella Ruth Maddox of Lake Kiowa on February 3, 2017, at the age of 88; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of Ray and Mary Susan Kennedy, the former Ruth Kennedy was born in Gainesville on April 5, 1928, and grew up with six siblings, Norma, Charles, James, Bobby, Sue, and Pat; she married Bill Maddox and they became the parents of a daughter, Monica, and two sons, Marcus and Michael; gentle and nurturing yet firm, she raised her children joyfully, singing as she performed tasks and joining in late-night board or card games; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Maddox provided steadfast support to her husband during his career in the oil business, which took the family to cities across the country, among them Billings, Montana, Casper, Wyoming, Denver, Colorado, Wichita, Kansas, and Shreveport, Louisiana; she managed the household finances with utmost frugality during the early years and made a comfortable, welcoming home in each new location; a marvelous cook, she introduced many friends in northern states to Southern cooking, especially fried chicken and buttermilk chocolate cake; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Ruth and Bill Maddox bought a place at Lake Kiowa that became a gathering spot for their extended family, which grew to include six grandchildren, Emily, Riley, Cabie, Lindsay, Michael, and Lauren, as well as six great-grandchildren, Simon, Libby, Zoe, Jack, John, and Dillon; and

WHEREAS, A supremely talented seamstress, this capable woman counted sewing as her favorite pastime; she also competed fiercely at the bridge table and in the political arena, where she worked tirelessly in behalf of her chosen candidates; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Maddox is deeply missed by all who were blessed to share in her love and affection, and they will forever hold her close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ella Ruth Maddox and extend sincere condolences to her family and to all those who mourn her passing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ella Ruth Maddox.