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By:  Rose H.R. No. 1390

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The tragic passing of Shelbi Nicole Stephens on April 13, 2019, at the age of 23, has brought a profound loss to those who loved and cherished her; and

WHEREAS, Shelbi Stephens was born in Dallas on March 16, 1996, to Angela and Wayne Stephens; growing up, she was blessed with the affection of a large family of grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins, and she was the sister of three siblings, Chassidi, Carrington, and the late Ayden Stephens; she graduated from DeSoto High School, where she distinguished herself as both a cheerleader and a majorette and won the state title for twirling in 2014; as a child, she also participated in the youth praise dance group at Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas, and she later became a praise dancer at Red Oak Faith Fellowship Church; and

WHEREAS, After high school, Ms. Stephens pursued her passion for hairstyling at MJ's Beauty Academy in Dallas before joining her sister, Chassidi, on the stylist team at iVibe Beauty Lounge in Cedar Hill; she made a name for herself in the hair industry and on social media as "Shelbi the Slayologist" and gained a loyal following of clients; her specialties included custom wigs, coloring, and hair extensions, as well as makeup, and she looked forward to venturing into the cosmetics market with the upcoming launch of her own lip gloss line; when not at work, she enjoyed promoting her brand and showing off her renowned styling skills at hair industry trade shows; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Stephens's greatest joy was becoming the mother of a son, Kaiden Isaiah Sanders, in 2015, and she worked hard to advance her career in order to provide him with the best life possible; and

WHEREAS, Through the love, kindness, and beauty she shared, Shelbi Stephens made the world a brighter place for all who knew her, and they will forever keep her memory alive 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 Shelbi Nicole Stephens and extend deepest condolences to the members of her family: to her father, Wayne Stephens; to her mother, Angela Sillemon; to her son, Kaiden Sanders; to her siblings, Chassidi Sillemon and Carrington Stephens; to her grandfather, Willie Sillemon; to her grandmother, Nadine Stephens-McKenzie; to her fiancé, Kaleb Northcutt; and to her numerous other relatives, friends, and colleagues; 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 Shelbi Stephens.