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By:  Beckley H.R. No. 1555

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, A caring and generous life drew to a close with the passing of Clifford "Gail" Rutledge of Lewisville on April 9, 2019, at the age of 74; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of Charles and Dorothy Apple, Gail Rutledge was born on December 15, 1944, in San Francisco, and she grew up with three younger siblings, Judy, Janice, and David; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rutledge earned a bachelor of science degree from the University of North Texas in 1978, and she continued her studies at Texas A&M University-Commerce, where she graduated with a master's degree in 1991; a dedicated and inspiring educator, she taught science, chemistry, and integrated physics and chemistry for more than three decades at schools in Emory, Mineola, and Tyler; after retiring in 2007, she worked as a substitute teacher in Tyler for several years; and

WHEREAS, Passionate about politics, Ms. Rutledge volunteered extensively with the Denton County Democratic Party and became office manager of the organization's headquarters in 2017; she further contributed her time to teaching English as a second language to adults in the community, and she was actively involved in the American Association of University Women and the Texas American Federation of Teachers; moreover, she performed in a number of productions at the Mineola Playhouse, participated in the Progressive Leaders of Denton County Toastmasters Club, and served on the board of the Denton Bridge Studio; and

WHEREAS, Above all else, Ms. Rutledge was a devoted mother to her three sons, Keith, Michael, and Brian, and she treasured the time she spent with her grandchildren, Brittany, Kennedy, Chance, and Hayes, and great-grandchildren, Cassius, Braylon, Landon, and Lakyn; and

WHEREAS, Gail Rutledge possessed a generosity of spirit that expressed itself in myriad ways, and she enriched the lives of countless people with her warmth and kindness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Clifford "Gail" Rutledge and extend sincere condolences to all 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 Clifford "Gail" Rutledge.