

By: Israel

H.R. No. 1340

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Austin lost a trailblazing journalist
2 and admired educator with the passing of Anita Walker Brewer Howard
3 on February 24, 2019, at the age of 94; and

4 WHEREAS, One of the first female reporters at the *Austin*
5 *American-Statesman*, Ms. Howard broke into the business during
6 World War II, as a student at The University of Texas; she was hired
7 to type up the society column and then got a job writing headlines
8 and filing police reports on the night shift; eloquent, personable,
9 and intrepid, she excelled as a reporter, covering politics and
10 education, as well as features; she interviewed everyone from
11 literary giant T. S. Eliot to federal judge Sarah T. Hughes, who
12 administered the presidential oath of office to Lyndon B. Johnson
13 following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Howard advocated for the creation of a community
15 college in the state capital, and in 1973, the founding president of
16 Austin Community College recruited her from the Texas Higher
17 Education Coordinating Board to serve as public information
18 officer; the school's first employee, she worked tirelessly to
19 increase support for community college education; she was
20 instrumental in launching the ACC journalism department, and the
21 classes she taught were always full; an outstanding mentor, she was
22 especially encouraging to women writers; she retired in 2010,
23 following 37 years in both full- and part-time roles; and

24 WHEREAS, Born in Lampasas on June 17, 1924, Ms. Howard

1 married Marion Weldon Brewer in 1944, and they became the parents of
2 six children, Jimmie, Gregory, Dale, Marion, Don, and Sue; her
3 first husband preceded her in death, as did her second and third
4 husbands, Donald Howard and Eugene Wukasch; she was survived by her
5 children, Marion, Don, and Sue, as well as six grandchildren and
6 many great-grandchildren; and

7 WHEREAS, Anita Howard helped expand the horizons of
8 innumerable people through her endeavors in journalism and
9 education, and those who were privileged to know her will forever
10 treasure their memories of her warmth, kindness, and keen insight;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Anita Walker Brewer
14 Howard and extend sincere condolences to her relatives and friends;
15 and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for Ms. Howard's family as an expression of high regard by
18 the Texas House of Representatives.