

By: Howard

H.R. No. 1529

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Joanna J. Heffington Nelson of Austin on May 24, 2020, at
3 the age 71; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of James and Agnes Heffington, the
5 former Joanna Heffington was born in Houston on August 13, 1948, and
6 she grew up with three sisters, Lanette, Claudette, and Nelwyn; she
7 completed her bachelor's degree in music education at Baylor
8 University and taught middle school in Brooklyn, New York, for two
9 years; subsequently, she became head assistant to the chief curator
10 at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.; after returning
11 to Texas, she worked as a transcriptionist for three district
12 courts in Travis County and then became a successful real estate
13 agent; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Nelson shared a rewarding 40-year relationship
15 with her husband, Jim, and she was the proud mother of three
16 children, James, Julia, and Caroline; with the passing years, she
17 was blessed with six grandchildren, Lawson, Campbell, Vada,
18 Virginia, Hazel, and Henry; and

19 WHEREAS, For almost two decades, Ms. Nelson was the music
20 director at Highland Park Baptist Preschool, and over the years,
21 many of her former students stayed in contact; she was a member of
22 Hyde Park Baptist Church for more than 20 years and served as the
23 director of ninth grade Sunday school; later, she joined Austin
24 First Church; she was also president of the Texas State Officials

1 Ladies Club; and

2 WHEREAS, Although Joanna Nelson is deeply missed, memories of
3 her kind and caring ways will remain a lasting source of inspiration
4 to those she leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
6 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Joanna J. Heffington
7 Nelson and extend sincere sympathy to her family and friends; and,
8 be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
11 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joanna
12 Heffington Nelson.