

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25

WHEREAS, Joan Mathis received the 2020 Lifetime Community Leadership Award from United Way of Lamar County; and

WHEREAS, Retired from a long and rewarding career as a teacher at Paris Junior College, Ms. Mathis has contributed to her community through her support of many worthwhile organizations; she has served on the board of directors of the Lamar County Chamber of Commerce, the Paris/Lamar County Habitat for Humanity, and the Paris Education Foundation, and she has volunteered with the Boys and Girls Club; moreover, she is an active member of the St. Paul Baptist Church and a two-time president of Church Women United; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Paris Junior College, Ms. Mathis taught developmental English, English composition, and American literature at her alma mater from 1975 until her retirement in 2014, and she was named a 2010-2011 Minnie Stevens Piper Professor for her outstanding work in the classroom; over the course of her nearly four decades in education, she held numerous leadership positions, such as president of the PJC Faculty Association and board member and Southwest region chair for the Two-Year College English Association; in 2011, she was honored as a distinguished PJC alumna, and an endowed scholarship was named in honor of her and her parents, Berlin and Katherine Reese, who helped to desegregate PJC in the 1950s; in addition to holding a degree from PJC, Ms. Mathis earned a bachelor's degree in English from Wiley College and a master's degree from East Texas State University; and

WHEREAS, Joan Mathis has made a positive difference in her community through a lifetime of purposeful endeavor, and residents of Lamar County are fortunate indeed to count her among their fellow citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby congratulate Joan Mathis on her receipt of the 2020 Lifetime Community Leadership Award from United Way of Lamar County; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Ms. Mathis as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Hughes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 9, 2021.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate