

By: Menéndez, et al.

S.R. No. 85

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A life of dedicated civic engagement drew to a close  
2 with the passing of admired educator Joyce W. Dorrycott of  
3 San Antonio on November 25, 2023, at the age of 93; and

4           WHEREAS, The daughter of Daisy and Edward Whigham, the former  
5 Joyce Whigham was born in Mobile, Alabama, on April 13, 1930; she  
6 married Jimmy Dorrycott at the age of 17 and lovingly raised five  
7 children; in her 40s, she graduated from Southwest Texas State  
8 University with highest honors and taught social studies for a  
9 semester at Lackland Junior/Senior High School; she served as a  
10 legislative aide while completing her master's degree in history  
11 and political science; after her first marriage ended, she was  
12 fortunate enough to find the love of her life, Donald Francis Green,  
13 whom she wed in 1980; and

14           WHEREAS, Ms. Dorrycott taught political science at her alma  
15 mater, and in the 1980s, she was employed for a time by the Bexar  
16 County district attorney as director of special projects; she  
17 helped establish the family violence unit and advocated  
18 successfully for legislation to address child abuse and family  
19 violence; appointed to the Children's Trust Fund of Texas Council,  
20 she further served on a number of countywide commissions; she was  
21 recognized by such organizations as the Council on Child Abuse and  
22 Neglect Prevention, the Bexar County Coalition on Domestic  
23 Violence, and the Commission on Juvenile Justice, and in 1984, she  
24 was inducted into the San Antonio Women's Hall of Fame; she retired

1 from teaching in 1994; and

2 WHEREAS, During the 1980s, Ms. Dorrycott became increasingly  
3 involved in politics, serving as a campaign manager or political  
4 consultant for a number of winning races; she played a key role in  
5 the formation of the Northwest Democrats and served for a decade as  
6 its chair, and she trained organizers across the state; the Bexar  
7 County Democratic Party presented her with its Lifetime Achievement  
8 Award in 2001; in her free time, she enjoyed traveling, and she and  
9 her husband performed genealogical research across the country and  
10 in Europe; she led the formation of the Whigham Family Association,  
11 published its newsletter, and cowrote two books on the Whigham  
12 ancestry; Mr. Green passed away in 2008, and she was also preceded  
13 in death by her daughter Sylvia; and

14 WHEREAS, Joyce Dorrycott earned the admiration of  
15 innumerable people through her tireless civic engagement, and her  
16 contributions will remain a source of inspiration to all who were  
17 privileged to know her; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 4th  
19 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Joyce W. Dorrycott  
20 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her  
21 children, David, Nancy, Timothy, and James; to her stepdaughter,  
22 Donna Green; to her eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren,  
23 and three great-great-grandchildren; and to her many other  
24 relatives and friends; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this  
27 day, it do so in memory of Joyce Dorrycott.