

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 41

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life lived with joy and purpose drew to a close
2 with the passing of Kathryn Bridget Connolly Piekarski of Tyler on
3 January 10, 2025, at the age of 72; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Jewel and John Connolly, the former
5 Bridget Connolly was born in Lakeland, Florida, on December 12,
6 1952; she earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the
7 University of South Florida and contributed to multiple
8 publications as a writer and editor during high school and college;
9 in 1981, she became the proud mother of a daughter, Kathryn, and
10 devoted herself to her upbringing; she shared a fulfilling marriage
11 of 27 years with her husband, Anthony Piekarski; and

12 WHEREAS, Mrs. Piekarski lived in many cities, among them
13 Memphis, Tennessee, New Orleans, Louisiana, Anchorage, Alaska,
14 Sarasota, Florida, and London, England; continuing her education,
15 she ultimately earned a master's degree in social work and mental
16 health counseling from the University of Alaska Anchorage; early in
17 her career, she helped schoolchildren in Anchorage and across
18 Central Florida and assessed patients in crisis for hospitals and
19 counties; she eventually established a successful private practice
20 and counseled individuals and families for decades in Florida and
21 then Tyler, where she and her husband settled in 2014 to be close to
22 her grandchildren; wherever she resided, her kindness, empathy,
23 magnetic personality, and keen intellect brought her many lasting
24 friendships; she served as a docent in numerous museums and art

1 galleries, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and worked
2 tirelessly to promote the arts and her favorite local artists; the
3 many organizations she supported included Doctors Without Borders,
4 the SPCA, and a number of symphony orchestras; she also served as
5 co-chair for the American Cancer Society of Anchorage; and

6 WHEREAS, Although Bridget Piekarski is deeply missed, she has
7 left her family and friends with many cherished memories, and she
8 will forever hold a special place in their hearts; now, therefore,
9 be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature, 1st
11 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Kathryn Bridget
12 Connolly Piekarski and extend sincere sympathy to the members of
13 her family: to her husband, Anthony Piekarski; to her daughter,
14 Kathryn Hamilton-Crain, and her husband, Burton; to her brother,
15 Tom Connolly, and his wife, Karen; to her stepchildren, Garreth
16 Piekarski and his wife, Tess Tomasi, and Leah Piekarski; to her
17 grandchildren, Gabriel and John Bradshaw, Burton, Erik, Patrick,
18 and Zoe Crain, Cora Piekarski, Stella and Iris Martin, and Billy
19 Vermeulen; and to her many other relatives and host of friends; and,
20 be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this
23 day, it do so in memory of Bridget Piekarski.