

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 56

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life lived with joy and purpose drew to a close on  
2 May 2, 2025, with the passing of Ethel Branch of Longview at the age  
3 of 81; and

4 WHEREAS, The youngest child of Dick and Marie Rowland, the  
5 former Ethel Rowland was born on December 19, 1943, in Orlando,  
6 Florida; after graduating high school, she worked in mortgage  
7 lending before embarking on a long and successful career in real  
8 estate; in 1995, she joined Lenhart Properties, now Coldwell Banker  
9 Lenhart Properties, and in the course of her 30 years with the  
10 agency, she was a top performer as well as a mentor and leader to her  
11 colleagues; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1986, she married Barney Branch, and the couple  
13 went on to share a rewarding marriage that spanned nearly four  
14 decades; Mrs. Branch's life was greatly enriched by her stepsons,  
15 Trey and Scott, as well as her three grandchildren and seven  
16 great-grandchildren; a woman of deep faith, she served as an usher  
17 at Trinity Episcopal Church; she also gave generously of her time  
18 and talents to the Green Thumb Garden Club, and she had a lifelong  
19 passion for the beach, especially the Florida coast; and

20 WHEREAS, Admired for her warmth, kindness, and quick wit,  
21 Ethel Branch brightened the world for all who knew her, and they  
22 will forever hold her close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature, 1st  
24 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Ethel Branch and

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1 extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of her family: to her  
2 husband, Barney Branch; to her sister-in-law, Jo Ann Ford, and her  
3 children, Jill, Gail, and Greg; to her stepsons, Trey Branch and  
4 Scott Branch and his wife, Christy; to her grandchildren, Connor,  
5 Carson, and Karly Branch; to her great-grandchildren; and to her  
6 many other relatives and host of friends; and, be it further

7       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this  
9 day, it do so in memory of Ethel Branch.