

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 16

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Acclaimed educator Barbara Jean Bolden Yarbrough of
2 Midland is celebrating her 90th birthday on August 29, 2025, to the
3 great delight of her family, her friends, and the many former
4 students who are gathering to honor her; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Franklin, Louisiana, in 1935, the former
6 Barbara Bolden earned her bachelor's degree in art education from
7 Texas Southern University; she was hired as an art teacher at
8 Midland's George Washington Carver Junior-Senior High School in
9 1959; later, she transitioned to preschool and first grade
10 instruction, and in 1973, she began her long and noteworthy tenure
11 on the faculty of Pease/South Elementary School; while mentoring a
12 host of youngsters, helping them to reach their fullest potential,
13 she took on a number of leadership roles; she served as president of
14 both the District Coordinating Council and the Midland Classroom
15 Teachers Association and as chair of the Midland Independent School
16 District Teachers Communication Committee; moreover, she was an
17 adjunct professor at The University of Texas Permian Basin and
18 Howard Bible College; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Yarbrough retired in 1996, only to embark on a
20 new chapter spanning upwards of a quarter century as a parent
21 liaison for the South Elementary community; in addition, she has
22 supported a variety of educational initiatives and volunteered at
23 MISD football games; she has further benefited the community
24 through her efforts in behalf of the Midland County Child Welfare

1 Board, the Midland Community Action Agency Head Start Program, the
2 Texas Workforce Center, and the United Way of Midland, among
3 numerous other organizations; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2015, Midland ISD named Yarbrough Elementary
5 School in her honor; Mrs. Yarbrough is the recipient of the
6 prestigious 2021-2022 LifeChanger of the Year Grand Prize,
7 conferred by the National Life Group on an educator who exemplifies
8 the highest ideals of the profession; *Texas Monthly* magazine
9 profiled her as the Most Inspiring Educator in the Country, and
10 among myriad accolades, she also garnered the Jefferson Award and
11 Retired Teacher of the Year Award from the Texas Classroom Teachers
12 Association; and

13 WHEREAS, Barbara Yarbrough has left an indelible mark on the
14 community, and this milestone in her life affords a welcome
15 opportunity for family, friends, and former students to express
16 their love and admiration; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas,
18 2nd Called Session, hereby congratulate Barbara Jean Bolden
19 Yarbrough on the occasion of her 90th birthday and extend to her
20 sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for Mrs. Yarbrough as an expression of high regard by the
23 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.