

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 63

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Barbara Wilkison Bell of Longview on June 20, 2025, at
3 the age of 94; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Cody and Gladys Wilkison, the former
5 Barbara Wilkison was born in Hubbard on June 6, 1931, and she grew
6 up with the companionship of a sister, Alice Faye; after graduating
7 from Dawson High School in 1949, she earned her bachelor's degree in
8 sociology from Baylor University; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1957, she married Joe Bell, and the couple shared
10 a rewarding marriage until his passing in 2010; they became the
11 proud parents of three sons, Martin, Blake, and David, who preceded
12 his parents in death; through the years, her cherished family grew
13 to include three grandchildren, Marshall, Eric, and John, and one
14 great-grandson, Jacob; and

15 WHEREAS, Over the course of her career, Mrs. Bell worked for
16 Southwest Reserve Life Insurance, Lone Star Steel, and Panola
17 Junior College; she also owned and operated the Falling Leaves Inn
18 bed and breakfast in Jefferson for many years; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Bell was a talented choir singer, and she also
20 enjoyed cooking and traveling across the globe; a woman of faith,
21 she was a valued member of First Baptist Church of Longview; and

22 WHEREAS, Barbara Bell led a life of caring devotion to her
23 loved ones, and although she is deeply missed, her spirit will
24 forever live in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature, 2nd
2 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Barbara
3 Wilkison Bell and extend sincere condolences to the members of her
4 family: to her sons, Martin Bell and his wife, Kendra, and Blake
5 Bell; to her daughter-in-law, Cynthia Weisinger Bell; to her
6 grandchildren, Marshall Bell, Eric Bell, and John Bell and his
7 wife, Courtlyn; to her great-grandson, Jacob Bell; to her
8 brother-in-law, Edwin Bell, and his wife, Carolyn; to her
9 sister-in-law, Jean Bell; and to her many other relatives and
10 friends; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this
13 day, it do so in memory of Barbara Bell.