

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Hester Beck Willis of Waco, who passed away on May 6, 2009, at the age of 85; and

WHEREAS, Born on February 1, 1924, in Waco, Hester Beck was the only child of Roy and Bessie Beck; she graduated from her hometown high school with the Class of 1941, earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Baylor University, and went on to teach in the La Vega, Dallas, and Waco school systems; and

WHEREAS, She exchanged the vows of matrimony with John Todd Willis, Jr., on February 2, 1952, at a ceremony held at the Austin Avenue United Methodist Church in Waco; Mrs. Willis and her husband became the proud parents of two children and shared a rewarding marriage until his passing; and

WHEREAS, A life member of United Methodist Women, Mrs. Willis served her fellow congregants at Austin Avenue UMC as a member of the administrative and stewards' boards and as a Sunday school teacher for the Primary I Department and the Friendship Class; this engaged citizen was a member of the Sterling C. Robertson Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the Henry Downs Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Chapter BF of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, and the Mary Milam Garden Club, and she held a life membership with the Friends of the Waco-McLennan County Library; and

WHEREAS, A kind and caring woman, Hester Willis left an indelible impression on the lives of all who shared in her love and friendship, and they will forever carry her close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Hester Beck Willis and extend sincere condolences to the members of her family: to her sons, Dr. T. Bradford Willis and David Parker Willis, Sr., and his wife, Carol; to her grandchildren, David Parker Willis, Jr., and Laura Anne Willis; and to her other relatives and friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Hester Beck Willis.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2541 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 31, 2009.

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Chief Clerk of the House