

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The Lone Star of Texas shines a little less brightly  
2 today with the loss of the fearless, funny, independent-minded  
3 journalist Molly Ivins, who died in Austin on January 31, 2007; and

4           WHEREAS, Born Mary Tyler Ivins in Monterey, California, on  
5 August 30, 1944, she was the daughter of Jim and Margot Milne Ivins;  
6 after her family moved to the River Oaks neighborhood of Houston,  
7 Ms. Ivins attended St. John's School, where she was the editor of  
8 the student newspaper; and

9           WHEREAS, She developed her love of the outdoors during hiking  
10 and sailing trips with her family; she also received her earliest  
11 training in political debate through lively and freewheeling  
12 discussions with her father on the issues of the day; and

13           WHEREAS, Following in the footsteps of her mother and  
14 grandmother, Ms. Ivins attended Smith College in Northampton,  
15 Massachusetts, graduating with a bachelor's degree in journalism in  
16 1966; she also attended the Institute of Political Sciences in  
17 Paris and earned a master's degree in journalism from Columbia  
18 University in New York; and

19           WHEREAS, Her long and colorful career in journalism began  
20 with summer jobs as a reporter at the *Houston Chronicle*, where she  
21 was known for her interest in socially significant stories; her  
22 first full-time job was with the *Minneapolis Tribune*, as the  
23 paper's first female police reporter; she also created her own  
24 "Movements for Social Change" beat at the paper, writing about, as

1 she later put it, "militant blacks, angry Indians, radical  
2 students, uppity women and a motley assortment of other misfits and  
3 troublemakers"; and

4 WHEREAS, Returning to Texas in 1970 to become co-editor of  
5 the *Texas Observer*, she further developed her distinctively witty  
6 prose and populist stance; she took great pleasure in the high style  
7 of Texas politics, calling it the best free entertainment in  
8 Austin; she later called her years at the *Observer* "a happy, golden  
9 time, full of sunshine and laughter and beer"; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1976 she moved to the *New York Times*, working as a  
11 political reporter in New York and Albany, and then as the Rocky  
12 Mountain bureau chief in Denver; in the staid culture of the *Times*,  
13 she stood out by wearing jeans, working barefoot, and bringing her  
14 dog to work, and she often sparred with the editors over her love of  
15 jokes and salty metaphors; and

16 WHEREAS, She returned to Texas in 1982 as a columnist for the  
17 *Dallas Times Herald*, where her strong opinions and pointed wit  
18 amused and sometimes outraged the paper's readers, often at the  
19 same time; when subscribers complained and several advertisers  
20 pulled their ads, the paper responded by putting up billboards in  
21 Dallas that read, "Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?", which  
22 became the title of her first book, a collection of her columns; and

23 WHEREAS, After the *Times Herald* folded in 1993, she wrote for  
24 the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, and then began her syndicated column,  
25 which has been carried twice weekly in 400 newspapers nationwide;  
26 she compiled several collections of her columns, and with Lou  
27 Dubose she wrote two best-selling volumes on national politics; and

1           WHEREAS, Over a long and storied career, Ms. Ivins won many  
2 awards, including the William Allen White Award from the University  
3 of Kansas, the Eugene V. Debs Award in the field of journalism, and  
4 the David Nyhan Prize from the Shorenstein Center at the Kennedy  
5 School of Government at Harvard University; she was a finalist for a  
6 Pulitzer Prize in commentary in 1985 and 1988; yet she often used  
7 her awards as trivets during dinner parties and said that the two  
8 honors she valued most were having the Minneapolis Police  
9 Department name their mascot pig after her when she was covering  
10 them, and being banned from speaking on the Texas A&M campus during  
11 her *Texas Observer* days; and

12           WHEREAS, Considered by many to be a crusading satirist on a  
13 par with Mark Twain and Will Rogers, she will be remembered by her  
14 many readers across the nation for her deeply held convictions, her  
15 plainspoken but pungent prose, and her unsparing wit; she will also  
16 be remembered for her appearances on *60 Minutes*, *The MacNeil/Lehrer*  
17 *News Hour*, NPR's *Morning Edition*, and other programs where she  
18 explained to the nation the mysteries of her home state in a sly  
19 Texas drawl; and

20           WHEREAS, Molly Ivins never wavered in her love of Texas; she  
21 was straight-talking, passionate, boundlessly energetic, and  
22 always the funniest person in the room; a brilliant raconteur and  
23 hostess, she opened her home to a lively crowd at a monthly event  
24 known as Last Friday; a true and loyal friend, a brilliant writer,  
25 and a tireless campaigner for the causes she believed in, Molly  
26 Ivins will be remembered by all as a force of nature, a woman who  
27 lived life right to the end without the brakes on, with style and

1 spirit and great good humor; now, therefore, be it

2         RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
3 hereby honor the life of Molly Ivins and offer sincere condolences  
4 to the members of her family: to her sister, Sara Ivins Maley; to  
5 her brother, Andy Ivins, and his wife, Carla; to her nephew, Drew,  
6 and her niece, Darby; to her niece, Margot Hutchison, and her  
7 husband, Neil, and their children, Sam, Andy, and Charlie; to her  
8 nephew, Paul Maley, and his wife, Karianna, and their children,  
9 Marty, Anneli, and Finnbar; and to her other relatives and many  
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 House of  
13 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so (though  
14 she'd scarcely believe it herself) in memory of Molly Ivins.

Naishtat

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez Fischer	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

David Newkumst  
President of the Senate

Jon Cardwell  
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 72 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 21, 2007.

Robert Haney  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 72 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate on February 21, 2007.

Patricia Grew  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 10 MAR '07

Date

RICK PERRY  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
O'CLOCK

MAR 10 2007  
Roger Hummel  
Secretary of State