By: Sherman, Sr. H.R. No. 1666

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Dona Mitchell of the Lancaster Independent School

2 District was certified as a National Dropout Prevention Specialist

3 by the National Dropout Prevention Center in January 2021; and

4 WHEREAS, The NDPS certification program offers educators and

5 individuals who work with at-risk youth the opportunity to gain

6 additional expertise in strategies that increase graduation rates;

7 participants complete a number of professional learning

8 requirements and conduct a field project that identifies techniques

9 for improving student success; and

10 WHEREAS, For more than a decade, Mrs. Mitchell has worked

with Lancaster ISD as the administrative assistant and truancy

12 coordinator for the Lancaster Police Department; in 2018, she

13 secured funding to provide washers and dryers to four campuses, and

14 most recently, she helped implement Talk Time with the Judge, which

15 connects at-risk students with local judges to discuss issues that

16 affect school attendance, such as homelessness, mental illness,

17 bullying, and abuse; and

11

18 WHEREAS, Active in her professional community, Mrs. Mitchell

19 has held a number of leadership positions with the International

20 Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention, currently serving

21 as president of the association's board of directors; in addition,

22 she established the DGM Foundation and became a National Runaway

23 Safeline representative; and

24 WHEREAS, Dona Mitchell has worked tirelessly to improve

H.R. No. 1666

- 1 educational outcomes for young Texans in Lancaster ISD, and this
- 2 impressive professional certification represents a new milestone
- 3 in her career; now, therefore, be it
- 4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
- 5 Legislature hereby congratulate Dona Mitchell on her certification
- 6 as a National Dropout Prevention Specialist by the National Dropout
- 7 Prevention Center and extend to her sincere best wishes for
- 8 continued success in her important work; and, be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 10 prepared for Mrs. Mitchell as an expression of high regard by the
- 11 Texas House of Representatives.