

By: Mowery

H.R. No. 75

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Jessard Aaron "Jimmy" Wisch of Fort
2 Worth on January 26, 2002, at the age of 85, has brought a great loss
3 to the family, friends, and colleagues of the notable publisher and
4 editor of the *Texas Jewish Post*; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on June 13, 1916, in Brooklyn, New York, Mr.
6 Wisch worked his way up from Depression-era poverty to become a
7 renowned journalist, publisher, and advocate for the State of
8 Israel; and

9 WHEREAS, In his early years, Mr. Wisch was employed by the
10 U.S. Postal Service, and during World War II he served in the U.S.
11 Army, where he published a shipboard newspaper for servicemen;
12 while in military service, Mr. Wisch met and fell in love with the
13 former Rene Radin, and they were married on March 19, 1946; and

14 WHEREAS, After World War II, Mr. Wisch began publishing the
15 *Texas Jewish Post* with his wife from their one-bedroom apartment in
16 Fort Worth; over the next 56 years, Mr. Wisch created a thriving
17 weekly publication that has served as a reliable source of local,
18 national, and international news for thousands of subscribers
19 throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex; and

20 WHEREAS, This talented journalist also wrote pieces on the
21 Middle East for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and *Houston Chronicle*;
22 during a visit to Israel in June 1967, he witnessed firsthand the
23 Six-Day War and provided readers of the *Texas Jewish Post* with
24 on-the-scene reporting of the event; and

1 WHEREAS, President of the American Jewish Press Association
2 from 1969 to 1972, Mr. Wisch interviewed at least five U.S.
3 presidents, met leaders and dignitaries worldwide, including Golda
4 Meir, and represented the Jewish press on President Nixon's
5 historic visit to the Soviet Union in 1972; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Wisch was a staunch defender of the State of
7 Israel and dedicated his life to combating anti-Semitism; at the
8 age of 62, he achieved one of his proudest moments with the belated
9 celebration of his bar mitzvah in Israel; and

10 WHEREAS, A Fort Worth resident for more than 65 years, he
11 earned his degree from Texas Christian University, where he also
12 attended graduate school; Mr. Wisch remained a devoted lifelong
13 member of Congregation Ahavath Sholom in Fort Worth; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Wisch will long be remembered for his spirit of
15 conviction, his success in the publishing industry, and his
16 contributions to the Jewish American community in Texas; his memory
17 will shine brightly in the hearts of the many people whose lives he
18 so deeply touched; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Jessard Wisch and
21 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
22 Rene Wisch; to his children, Linda Wisch Davidsohn, Steve Wisch,
23 Judy Wisch, Susan Wisch, and Sharon Wisch-Ray and her husband,
24 Alex; to his grandchildren, Amy and Tim Doty, Reuben and Suzy
25 Davidsohn, Jordana and Josh Bernstein, Ethan Davidsohn, Ari Wisch,
26 and Benjamin and Samuel "Zommie" Ray; to his great-grandchildren,
27 Rose and Zachary Bernstein and Shea Doty; and to his other relatives

1 and many friends; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House
4 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jessard
5 Aaron "Jimmy" Wisch.