H.R. No. 172

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Lone Star State lost a distinguished and heroic
 citizen when Josef Mincberg of Houston passed away on January 10,
 2003, at the age of 86; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Mincberg was born on March 15, 1916, in 5 Szydlowiec, Poland, where he received his education and worked in 6 his father's electrical shop; and

7 WHEREAS, During World War II, Mr. Mincberg lost his immediate 8 family to the Holocaust, but he defied the Nazis by jumping off the 9 train delivering him to the death camp Treblinka; then, the 10 Nowakowskis, a Polish Christian family with whom he maintained a 11 relationship the rest of his life, gave him support and protection; 12 and

WHEREAS, After the Soviet Army liberated Poland, Mr. Mincberg moved to the American sector of Germany, where he met and fell in love with Edith "Dita" Sternlicht; they were married in January 16 1949 and later that year immigrated to the United States; and

WHEREAS, The couple settled in Houston and established the Mincberg Construction Company, Inc.; a longtime member and generous supporter of the Congregation Beth Yeshurun, he helped to build the Lubavitch Chabad House of Worship and Study and to develop the Seven Acres Jewish Geriatric Center; and

22 WHEREAS, A respected community leader, Mr. Mincberg was a 23 charter member of the I. Weiner Middle School, a founding member of 24 the Hebrew Free Loan Association, a Hadassah Associate, and a

1

H.R. No. 172

1 member of the Shidlovtzer Society in the United States and Israel;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Mincberg avidly supported Israel and sought ways 4 to memorialize the victims of the Holocaust; he was a member of the 5 Houston Council of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and charter member of 6 the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.; in 7 Houston, he helped to establish the Holocaust Museum Houston, 8 endowing it with the Josef and Edith Mincberg Gallery; and

9 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman demonstrated uncommon 10 courage, perseverance, and generosity throughout his lifetime; he 11 positively influenced the lives of countless individuals and, in 12 their hearts, his spirit continues to live; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas 13 14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Josef Mincberg and 15 extend sympathy to the members of his family: to his beloved wife, Edith Mincberg; to his son, David Mincberg, and his wife, Lainie 16 17 Gordon; to his daughter, Pearl Mincberg, and her husband, Meir Monk; to his grandchildren, Adam, Erin, Mallory, and Seth Mincberg, 18 19 and Orly, Natalie, and Doreen Monk; to his step-granddaughter, Samantha Gordon; and to his other relatives and numerous friends; 20 21 and, be it further

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

> Hochberg Wong

2

H.R. No. 172

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 172 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 28, 2003.

Chief Clerk of the House