

By: Hochberg

H.R. No. 172

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State lost a distinguished and heroic
2 citizen when Josef Mincberg of Houston passed away on January 10,
3 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

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

17 WHEREAS, The couple settled in Houston and established the
18 Mincberg Construction Company, Inc.; a longtime member and generous
19 supporter of the Congregation Beth Yeshurun, he helped to build the
20 Lubavitch Chabad House of Worship and Study and to develop the Seven
21 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 member of the Shidlovitzer Society in the United States and Israel;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Minberg 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 Minberg 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

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

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