RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The citizens of Houston lost a visionary business and civic leader with the passing of Walter Max Mischer on December 3 18, 2005, at the age of 83; and

WHEREAS, A native Texan, Mr. Mischer was born on July 4, 1922, in Karnes County, the son of Walter and Georgia Mischer; growing up in South Texas, he struggled with the early, sudden loss of his father and the economic difficulties of the Great Depression, but with the same resolve that he would exhibit for the rest of his life, Mr. Mischer worked hard to earn the necessary tuition to study engineering at the Texas College of Arts and Industries in Kingsville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mischer contributed to the American cause in World War II by supervising the construction of naval bases before turning his talent for building and planning to peaceful purposes in his new hometown of Houston; his innovative approach to residential development aided several generations of Texans in fulfilling their dreams of home ownership, and the respected name of Mischer Investments, his primary business, became synonymous with the growth of Houston into one of the premier cities of Texas and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Walter Mischer's business acumen was also proven in banking, where his adept management led to the creation of Allied Bancshares in 1971; moreover, he was one of the founders of the Marathon Manufacturing Company, an important energy-services

- 1 provider, and his enlightened stewardship of his land holdings in
- 2 West Texas contributed to the creation of Big Bend Ranch State Park,
- 3 an awe-inspiring preserve that can now be enjoyed by all; and
- WHEREAS, This thoughtful and perceptive man took an intense
- 5 interest in the affairs of local, state, and federal government;
- 6 providing assistance and guidance to a long line of legislators and
- 7 executives, both Republican and Democrat, Mr. Mischer played an
- 8 integral role in promoting the careers of some of the most esteemed
- 9 political figures to hail from Texas, from Lyndon B. Johnson to
- 10 George H. W. Bush; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Mr. Mischer's contributions to his state and to the
- 12 city of Houston were recognized by the prestigious awards he
- 13 received in his lifetime, which included being named Outstanding
- 14 Citizen of Houston in 1965, being inducted into the Texas Business
- 15 Hall of Fame in 1985, and winning the Impact Award from the West
- 16 Houston Association in 2004; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Walter Mischer's unique mix of entrepreneurial
- 18 genius, civic responsibility, and influential ideas made him a
- 19 sterling example of what one dedicated individual can accomplish by
- 20 immersing himself in the political process, not to gain personal
- 21 glory but to make a positive difference in the world around him;
- 22 now, therefore, be it
- 23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
- 24 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Walter Max Mischer and
- extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife of
- 26 62 years, Mary Alford Mischer; to his children, Paula Mischer and
- 27 Walter M. Mischer, Jr., and his wife, Leila; to his grandchildren,

- 1 Candace Watson, Robert L. Corson and his wife, Olivia, Walter R.
- 2 Corson and his wife, Jodie, Duncan M. Watson, Walter M. Mischer III,
- 3 Lawson W. Mischer, and Morgan J. Mischer; to his great-grandsons,
- 4 Nicholas A. Corson and Andrew Corson; to his sisters, Edna Kerlick
- 5 and Marilyn Russell and her husband, Tom; and to his many other
- 6 relatives and friends; and, be it further
- 7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 8 prepared for his family, and that when the Texas House of
- 9 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Walter Max
- 10 Mischer.

Callegari

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 15 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 1, 2007.

Chief Clerk of the House