

By: Smith of Tarrant

H.R. No. 1011

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Euless lost a beloved resident and
2 public servant with the passing of Willie Mae McCormick on January
3 13, 2007, at the age of 98; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on October 17, 1908, the former Willie Mae Ward
5 grew up on a cotton farm in Pleasant Ridge, the sixth of nine
6 children; she attended a one-room schoolhouse through the 10th
7 grade and completed her education at Jewett High School; she went on
8 to become the first person in her family to attend college, earning
9 a bachelor's degree from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in
10 1929, followed by a master's degree in chemistry from
11 Hardin-Simmons University in 1932; during World War II, she worked
12 as a chemist for the Dow Chemical Company in Freeport and
13 subsequently built a 20-year career as an engineer at
14 Ling-Temco-Vought in Grand Prairie; and

15 WHEREAS, Following her retirement from LTV in 1973, Mrs.
16 McCormick became the first woman elected to the Euless City
17 Council, which she served for 12 years, including 10 as mayor pro
18 tem; known for her diligence and keen intellect, she advocated for
19 equal pay for female employees and, long after her public service
20 ended, she continued to send handwritten letters of thanks and
21 congratulations to city staff; her civic leadership also included
22 extensive service with the Historical Preservation Committee and
23 the Library Board; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. McCormick's legacy of dedication to Euless

1 lives on at two city parks, McCormick Park, which was named in her
2 honor in 1980, and Heritage Park, home to the historic McCormick
3 Barn, donated by her in 1998; and

4 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan married Walter W. "Mac"
5 McCormick in 1929, and the couple enjoyed more than 65 years
6 together before his passing in 1995; and

7 WHEREAS, An exceptionally bright and generous woman, Willie
8 Mae McCormick touched countless lives with her many remarkable
9 achievements, and although she will be deeply missed, her life was
10 an inspiring example of the good that one person can accomplish;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Willie Mae McCormick
14 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her
15 daughter, Elizabeth; to her grandchildren, Wanda Whitley and her
16 husband, Tommy, Jackie Olsen and her husband, Gary, and Billy Mack
17 Wilcox; to her five great-grandchildren and four
18 great-great-grandchildren; and to her other relatives and many
19 friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Willie Mae
23 McCormick.