

By: Laubenberg

H.R. No. 711

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Dr. Jack
2 Homer Hittson, Jr., of Rockwall, who passed away on February 10,
3 2009, at the age of 83; and

4 WHEREAS, A fifth-generation Texan, Jack Hittson was born on
5 June 19, 1925, in Palo Pinto, into one of the area's pioneer
6 ranching families; he graduated from Strawn High School and went on
7 to attend The University of Texas at Arlington when he was only 16;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty during World War
10 II, he left college to enlist in the U.S. Navy, and he became a navy
11 pilot; after the war, he resumed his studies and graduated from
12 Baylor College of Dentistry at the age of 23; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Hittson's early career as a dentist was
14 adventurous; he practiced first in Panama, where he met and married
15 an elementary school teacher, the former Elizabeth Weltzin; in
16 1950, the young couple moved to Alaska, where Dr. Hittson practiced
17 aboard the public health ship *MV Health*; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1955, Dr. Hittson returned to Texas and
19 subsequently earned a graduate degree in orthodontics at the
20 University of Tennessee at Memphis; he moved to Garland and had no
21 sooner set up his practice when he was recommissioned for medical
22 military service by the army during the Korean War; he was stationed
23 in Orleans, France, where he was joined by his family; and

24 WHEREAS, After his discharge in 1957, Dr. Hittson returned to

1 Garland, where he established one of the first orthodontic
2 practices in North Texas; for nearly 30 years, he devoted himself to
3 creating beautiful smiles for several generations of young people
4 in Garland and Rockwall before he retired at the age of 60; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Hittson was active in his profession as a member
6 of the Garland Dental Study Club and the Texas Dental Association;
7 he was also a vital participant in community affairs, working with
8 the YMCA, the Boy Scouts, the Masons, and the Democratic Party; and

9 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Dr. Hittson expressed his
10 curiosity about the world through a wide variety of interests; a
11 cattle rancher, a beekeeper, and a woodworker, he also rebuilt
12 Model A Fords and collected arrowheads, and he enjoyed studying
13 American history, telling stories, and writing short fiction; and

14 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family, community, and profession,
15 Jack Hittson led a rich and purposeful life, and he will always be
16 remembered with great admiration and affection by all those who
17 were privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dr. Jack Homer
20 Hittson, Jr., and extend sincere condolences to the members of his
21 family: to his wife of 59 years, Elizabeth Edith Weltzin Hittson; to
22 his daughters, State Representative Carol Hittson Kent and her
23 husband, David C. Kent, and Suzanne Laura Hittson and her husband,
24 Kevin L. Smith; to his sons, Jeffery Roy Hittson and his wife, Mary
25 Pacheco, and William Jack Hittson and his wife, Kathy L. Ellis; to
26 his grandchildren, John Kent and his wife, Kelly, Meredith Kent,
27 Robert Kent, Amanda Hittson, Terra Hittson, Anne Hittson, Finn

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1 Hittson, Lauren Hittson-Smith, Rachal Hittson-Smith, Jack
2 Hittson-Smith, and Hannah Hittson; to his sister, Mildred Harriet
3 Million, and her grandson, Tom Million, and his wife, Melissa; and
4 to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for Dr. Hittson's family and that when the Texas House of
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Jack
8 Homer Hittson, Jr.