

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of  
2 entrepreneur and community leader Marion Allen Mitchell of Dallas,  
3 who died on April 7, 2009, at the age of 83; and

4           WHEREAS, Marion Allen Mitchell was born in Wheelock on May  
5 15, 1925, to Elijah and Amanda Mitchell; he graduated from Kemp High  
6 School in Bryan; after working as a farmer during World War II, he  
7 moved to Dallas, where he was employed by Edmar Ford, Acme Brick  
8 Company, and Braniff Airways; and

9           WHEREAS, While working at Preston Forest Tower in the 1960s,  
10 Mr. Mitchell realized that the building's mail was delivered by a  
11 private company, not the U.S. Postal Service, and in 1966, he  
12 started his own business, contracting with the post office to carry  
13 mail between Garland and Dallas; and

14           WHEREAS, First known as Mitchell Transportation and later as  
15 Mitchell Mail Service, the company was the first private mail  
16 carrier to be owned by an African American in Dallas; it grew over  
17 the next 25 years from a single truck to a company of 50 employees  
18 transporting U.S. mail all over North Texas and leasing trailers to  
19 the postal service; Mr. Mitchell also owned a truck service  
20 terminal; and

21           WHEREAS, Mr. Mitchell was a leading member of his profession,  
22 serving as a member of the board of the National Association of  
23 Letter Carriers and as a vice president of the National Star Route  
24 Mail Contractors Association; and

1           WHEREAS, A man of strong religious faith, Mr. Mitchell was an  
2 active member of Hamilton Park United Methodist Church, serving on  
3 the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee, the Building  
4 Committee, and the board of trustees; he was active in the greater  
5 community as well, as a member of the Civic League, the Dallas Black  
6 Chamber of Commerce, and the Dallas African American Museum, and he  
7 was a lifetime member of the NAACP; and

8           WHEREAS, Marion Mitchell exemplified the virtues of  
9 integrity, hard work, and initiative, and his legacy of achievement  
10 and commitment to his community will continue to inspire those he  
11 leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Marion Allen Mitchell  
14 and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his  
15 wife of 65 years, Irene Shields Mitchell; to his children,  
16 Constance Mitchell-Sharpe and Fred Mitchell, Sr.; to his brother,  
17 Benjamin Mitchell; to his sister, Estelle Mitchell-Adams; to his  
18 grandchildren, Regina Mitchell-Gillstrap, Marilyn Mitchell-Pope,  
19 and Fred Mitchell, Jr.; to his great-granddaughters, Danielle and  
20 Gina Pope; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it  
21 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 Marion  
25 Allen Mitchell.

Kent

H.R. No. 1944

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1944 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 19, 2009.

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Chief Clerk of the House