

By: Thompson of Harris

H.C.R. No. 29

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Michael Whitney McKinney served his state and its
2 business community with great distinction, and his passing on
3 February 15, 2012, brought a great loss to all who were fortunate
4 enough to know this admired Texan; and

5 WHEREAS, A San Angelo native, Mike McKinney earned his
6 bachelor's degree in government from The University of Texas at
7 Austin; in 1968, he began his career in public service working for
8 Preston Smith, first in the office of the lieutenant governor and
9 later as Governor Smith's special assistant and appointments
10 secretary; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. McKinney went on to distinguish himself as
12 assistant to the executive director of the Texas Water Quality
13 Board and then as assistant administrator of the Texas Alcoholic
14 Beverage Commission; he became vice president of industry affairs
15 for the Wholesale Beer Distributors of Texas in 1984, and he was
16 named its chief executive officer five years later; he led WBDT with
17 enormous skill and energy for more than two decades, and he spent so
18 much time observing the floor activities of the Texas House of
19 Representatives that a chair in the gallery came to be regarded as
20 his; and

21 WHEREAS, Such publications as the *Quorum Report* and *Capitol*
22 *Inside* recognized Mr. McKinney's diligence and effectiveness, and
23 in 1996, the TABC presented him with its Bert Ford Commendation;
24 moreover, he received both the Presidential Award for Legislative

1 Excellence and the President's Industry Service Award from the
2 National Beer Wholesalers Association; and

3 WHEREAS, Dedicated to preserving our state's rich heritage,
4 Mr. McKinney served on the board of the Bob Bullock Texas State
5 History Museum Foundation, including as its president from 2005 to
6 2006, and he was a member of the State Cemetery Board and the board
7 of Friends of the Governor's Mansion; he actively supported
8 improvements to the mansion as a member of the Sam Houston Society
9 as well; and

10 WHEREAS, For years during legislative sessions, Mike
11 McKinney was a near-constant presence in his favorite chair in the
12 house gallery, and it is appropriate to pay special tribute to him
13 with the installation of an engraved plaque on that chair; in
14 accordance with the provisions of Chapter 443, Government Code, the
15 State Preservation Board is charged with approving all changes to
16 the Capitol and its contents; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
18 hereby direct the State Preservation Board to install a plaque that
19 is engraved with the words "In memory of Michael W. McKinney, a
20 great Texan and protector of the Code and Constitution" on the
21 specific house gallery chair long occupied by Mr. McKinney; and, be
22 it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an
24 official copy of this resolution to the executive director and
25 members of the State Preservation Board.