

By: Geren

H.R. No. 70

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, With the passing of Michael W. McKinney of Austin on  
2 February 15, 2012, Texas lost a prominent figure in state politics  
3 and an admired community leader; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in San Angelo in 1946, Mike McKinney was  
5 president of the San Angelo Central High School student body his  
6 senior year; he attended Angelo State University and graduated from  
7 The University of Texas at Austin after earning his bachelor's  
8 degree in government; he then began a 40-year career that would  
9 never take him far from the pink dome and state politics; and

10           WHEREAS, Mr. McKinney first worked for Preston Smith in the  
11 office of lieutenant governor and continued to serve as his special  
12 assistant after he was elected governor; following Governor Smith's  
13 two terms in office, Mr. McKinney moved to the Texas Water Quality  
14 Board as an assistant to the executive director; in 1977, he joined  
15 the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, where he served as an  
16 assistant administrator and helped modernize the agency; and

17           WHEREAS, A highly effective liaison, Mr. McKinney joined the  
18 Wholesale Beer Distributors of Texas in 1984 as vice president of  
19 industry affairs, and he was promoted to chief executive officer in  
20 1989; throughout his career, Mr. McKinney's effectiveness as a  
21 legislative lobbyist was well known and highly respected; *Capitol*  
22 *Inside* listed him as the number one "single client lobbyist" in  
23 2004, and *The Quorum Report* ranked him at the top of the list of  
24 "Most Knowledgeable, Greatest Candor" in the governmental affairs

1 arena; he won many honors for his work, including the F.X. Matt  
2 Award for Significant Accomplishment from the Brewers Association  
3 of America in 2002 and the National Beer Wholesalers Association's  
4 President's Award for Legislative Excellence in 1998; the NBWA  
5 posthumously honored him with its Life Service Award in October  
6 2012; and

7       WHEREAS, Along with the recognition that he received for his  
8 professional achievements, Mr. McKinney was esteemed for his many  
9 civic endeavors; he served as president of the Bob Bullock Texas  
10 State History Museum Foundation and vice chair of the Friends of  
11 the Texas State Cemetery; he was a former member of the boards of  
12 the Friends of the Governor's Mansion and Keep Texas Beautiful; and  
13 since the mid-1980s, he had volunteered in the planning and support  
14 for governor and lieutenant governor inaugural activities and  
15 governor for a day celebrations; additionally, he was a 32nd degree  
16 Mason and a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour and was a member  
17 of the board of directors of the Scottish Rite Learning Center of  
18 Austin; he was also a longtime board member and president of The  
19 Austin Club; and

20       WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his family, Mr. McKinney shared  
21 nearly four decades with his beloved wife, the former LaNan Hooker,  
22 and together they were blessed with two children, W. Blake McKinney  
23 and Lauren Brooke McKinney, and three grandchildren; and

24       WHEREAS, Though it is impossible to gauge the full effect of a  
25 man's life, some individuals leave their unmistakable mark on the  
26 world as they move through it, and Mike McKinney's contributions to  
27 his state will long resonate in the lives of all who knew him; now,

1 therefore, be it

2           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
3 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Michael W. McKinney  
4 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his  
5 wife, LaNan; to his children, Dr. W. Blake McKinney and his wife,  
6 Erika, and Lauren Brooke McKinney; to his grandchildren, Chad  
7 William McKinney, Braden Michael McKinney, and Skylar Sands  
8 McKinney; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it  
9 further

10           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
12 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Michael  
13 W. McKinney.