

By: Wray

H.R. No. 863

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Italy, Texas, are mourning the loss of
2 longtime resident and beloved restaurateur Doris Jane Holley
3 Mitchell, who passed away on March 1, 2017, at the age of 77; and

4 WHEREAS, One of 13 children in her family, the former Doris
5 Holley was born to Floyd and Mary Holley on September 28, 1939, in
6 Grandview; she started her career working at Oma's Jiffy Burger in
7 Waxahachie and went on to open Uptown Café in Italy, which she owned
8 and operated for more than a quarter century; and

9 WHEREAS, Ranked among *Texas Monthly's* "40 Best Small Town
10 Cafes" in 2008, this popular eatery was famous for its homemade
11 hamburgers and fries as well as its catfish, chicken-fried steak,
12 and fresh-baked pies; Ms. Mitchell treated her customers like
13 family, delivering daily meals to homebound regulars and sponsoring
14 holiday potlucks to ensure that no one had to spend the day alone;
15 known affectionately as "Nana," she had a special place in her heart
16 for the young people in her community and covered the walls of her
17 restaurant with their pictures, along with memorabilia from the
18 Italy High School Gladiators and Lady Gladiators; and

19 WHEREAS, Ms. Mitchell shared a rewarding marriage with her
20 husband, Champ, until his passing, and she was a devoted mother to
21 her six children, Steve, Brenda, Suzy, Laurie, Sandy, and Ray Don;
22 as time went by, she had the pleasure of welcoming numerous
23 grandchildren and great-grandchildren into her family; and

24 WHEREAS, Doris Mitchell touched countless lives with her

1 delicious food, her wit and wisdom, and her engaging smile, and all
2 those who were fortunate enough to know her will forever hold her
3 close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
5 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Doris Jane Holley
6 Mitchell and extend sincere condolences to the members of her
7 family and to her many friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Doris
11 Mitchell.