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By:  Craddick H.C.R. No. 158

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, George P. Mitchell, a Houston oil magnate and philanthropist and one of the world's most influential energy pioneers, is being posthumously inducted into the Petroleum Hall of Fame on May 2, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Based at the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum in Midland, the Petroleum Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the development of the petroleum industry in the region; and

WHEREAS, Born in Galveston on May 21, 1919, George Mitchell became fascinated by petroleum exploration while working one of the many summer jobs of his youth; he went on to study petroleum engineering and geology at Texas A&M University, where he graduated first in his class in 1940; his training in A&M's Corps of Cadets led to his service as a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II, and when the war ended, he joined a newly formed wildcatting company, Oil Drilling Inc.; after starting out as a consulting geologist and engineer, he rose to become a partner in the firm and was eventually named president in 1959; under his leadership, the company grew into one of the country's largest independent oil and gas producers; and

WHEREAS, During his career, Mr. Mitchell was involved in the drilling of more than 10,000 wells that yielded several hundred oil and gas discoveries; he is best remembered for his experimental and ultimately successful efforts to employ hydraulic fracturing in the Barnett Shale, which ushered in the shale gas revolution and forever transformed the United States energy industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mitchell served his profession as a member of the National Petroleum Council and, for three terms, as president of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association; he was also a director of the Gas Research Institute and a member of the World Resources Institute Council; along the way, he strongly supported the National Academy of Sciences in promoting sustainability practices, and he provided endowments to further the sustainability goals of the Houston Advanced Research Center and other institutions; and

WHEREAS, George P. Mitchell is recognized today as the father of one of the most significant technological innovations of the 21st century, and his myriad achievements over the course of his life have distinguished him among his peers and rightfully earned him a place among the industry greats who are enshrined in the Petroleum Hall of Fame; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby honor the memory of George P. Mitchell on the occasion of his posthumous induction into the Petroleum Hall of Fame and pay tribute to him for his remarkable life and legacy; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Mitchell's family as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.