

By: Representative Snowden

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND
2 MOURNING THE LOSS OF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BRIGADIER GENERAL
3 SAMUEL P. MITCHELL, JR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS
4 FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "To
6 everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under
7 the Heaven," and as such, on January 5, 2018, the immaculate
8 author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal
9 presence of dearly beloved, United States Air Force Brigadier
10 General Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr., to eternal rest, rendering great
11 sorrow and loss to his family and friends; and

12 WHEREAS, born on August 10, 1938, in Portsmouth, New
13 Hampshire, to Samuel P. Mitchell, Sr., and Blanche Pettigrew,
14 General Mitchell attended military school from the sixth grade and
15 graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy of Saint Petersburg,
16 Florida, in June 1956; and

17 WHEREAS, General Mitchell earned his bachelor's degree in
18 architectural engineering from the University of Florida, and was
19 a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, where he held many



20 elected positions during his undergraduate years, and further
21 attended Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base,
22 earned his master's degree in public administration from Auburn
23 University, earned an additional master's degree in business
24 administration from the University of Missouri in Kansas City,
25 Missouri, and attended Air War College where he was rated as
26 outstanding; and

27 WHEREAS, being a distinguished graduate of the Air Force
28 Reserve Officers Training Program, General Mitchell received a
29 regular commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force,
30 commanded numerous aircraft, and served as a C-130 group deputy
31 commander of operations, an A-10 wing deputy commander of
32 resources, a C-130 wing vice commander and further served in a
33 Headquarters United States Air Force staff position; and

34 WHEREAS, a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in
35 various military aircraft, including 874 hours while flying 200
36 combat missions in KC-135s over Vietnam, General Mitchell retired
37 from the United States Air Force on July 17, 1996, after more than
38 34 years of service to our nation; and

39 WHEREAS, General Mitchell was very active in the Reserve
40 Officers Association (ROA), serving in every elected position in
41 the Chapter and State Department organizations before being
42 elected as National President in 1989, where he served until 1990,
43 and remained active as a Past National President of ROA after his
44 tour of duty was completed; and



45 WHEREAS, in civilian life, General Mitchell was a commercial
46 pilot for Trans World Airlines for over 30 years, and after
47 retirement, he served as a liaison officer assisting numerous
48 young men and women as they sought entrance to military academies,
49 finding that mentoring youth in this capacity was very fulfilling
50 and it gave him confidence in the future of our country; and

51 WHEREAS, General Mitchell accomplished many feats throughout
52 his life, being the recipient of many awards and decorations,
53 including: the Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit;
54 Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Air Medal
55 with three oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal with
56 two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three
57 oak leaf clusters; Air Force Organization Excellence Award; Combat
58 Readiness Medal with three oak leaf clusters; National Defense
59 Service Medal with a bronze service star; Armed Forces
60 Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze
61 service stars; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm; and
62 the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and

63 WHEREAS, though he has traversed the river of life to now
64 stand upon golden heavenly shores, the legacy of General
65 Mitchell's selfless service and allegiance to his family and the
66 United States will forever be etched in the hearts and memories of
67 his loving survivors: his wife, June Mitchell; two children,
68 Samuel P. Mitchell III (Tonya) and Leland Mitchell (Michelle); and



69 four grandchildren, Samuel P. Mitchell IV, Tessa Mitchell, Gabriel
70 Mitchell and Jakob Mitchell; and

71 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
72 great Americans such as United States Air Force Brigadier General
73 Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr., whose steadfast commitment to his family
74 and unwavering dedication to this great nation has brought great
75 honor to both his family and to the United States of America:

76 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
77 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
78 THEREIN, That we do hereby remember the gallant service and mourn
79 the loss of United States Air Force Brigadier General Samuel P.
80 Mitchell, Jr., and express deepest sympathy to his family and
81 friends upon his passing.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
83 furnished to the family of United States Air Force Brigadier
84 General Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr., and to the members of the Capitol
85 Press Corps.

