
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 116 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY MILNE, DAVIDSON, MURT, DIGIROLAMO, KINSEY,
CHARLTON, D. COSTA, HENNESSEY, MILLARD, BULLOCK, CALTAGIRONE
AND ROEBUCK, MARCH 6, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 6, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the milestones, achievements and legacy of Dr. Edith
2 Mitchell of the City of Philadelphia.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Edith Mitchell is a clinical professor of
4 medical oncology at Thomas Jefferson University; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell is the director of the Center to
6 Eliminate Cancer Disparities for the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center
7 at Thomas Jefferson University; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell has spent her medical career helping
9 individuals in medically underserved areas to realize that
10 simple changes in lifestyle can have a dramatic impact on cancer
11 care; and

12 WHEREAS, Through her work, Dr. Mitchell has demonstrated the
13 importance of community service and outreach, especially to
14 those individuals who may not have the means to seek out more
15 conventional medical advice; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell received a bachelor of science degree
17 in biochemistry from Tennessee State University and her medical

1 degree from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond; and

2 WHEREAS, While attending medical school, Dr. Mitchell entered
3 the United States Air Force and received a commission through
4 the Health Professions Scholarship Program and entered active
5 duty after completing her internship and residency in internal
6 medicine; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell's research in breast, colorectal and
8 pancreatic cancers and other gastrointestinal malignancies
9 involves new drug evaluation and chemotherapy, development of
10 new therapeutic regimens, chemoradiation strategies for combined
11 modality therapy, patient selection criteria and supportive care
12 for patients with gastrointestinal cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell is a prominent researcher in her field
14 and has authored and co-authored more than 100 articles, book
15 chapters and abstracts on cancer treatment, prevention and
16 cancer control; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell has received many cancer research and
18 principal investigator awards, including a Promise Grant from
19 the Susan G. Komen Foundation, and has served on several
20 National Cancer Institute review panels, including the Clinical
21 Trials and Translational Research Advisory Committee; and

22 WHEREAS, Among her many honors, Dr. Mitchell has received the
23 Tree of Life Award from Wellness of You, a Philadelphia
24 nonprofit organization that recognizes health professionals who
25 are committed to making a difference in community health; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell was awarded the American Cancer
27 Society's Cancer Control Award for her significant commitment to
28 research, education and diversity; and

29 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell received the 2011 Practitioner of the
30 Year Award from the Philadelphia County Medical Society and was

1 named the 2012 Humanitarian Practitioner of the Year by the
2 American Society of Clinical Oncology; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell was inducted into the National
4 Historically Black College Hall of Fame in 2013 and received the
5 Octavius Valentine Catto Award for community service to the City
6 of Philadelphia from the Mann Center in 2014; and

7 WHEREAS, The National Medical Association, the nation's
8 oldest and largest professional society for African-American
9 physicians, appointed Dr. Mitchell as the organization's 116th
10 president in 2015; and

11 WHEREAS, In addition to her medical achievements, Dr.
12 Mitchell is a retired Brigadier General, the first female
13 physician to attain this rank in the history of the United
14 States Air Force, having served as the Air National Guard
15 assistant to the command surgeon for the United States
16 Transportation Command and Headquarters Air Mobility Command at
17 Scott Air Force Base in Illinois; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell has been awarded more than 15 military
19 service medals and ribbons, including the Legion of Merit,
20 Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement and
21 Commendation Medals, National Defense Service Medal and
22 Humanitarian Service Medal; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitchell has transformatively inspired the
24 youths of Harrisburg who are considering embarking upon military
25 and STEM professional careers with her visit to the Harrisburg
26 School District at the invitation of the Harrisburg Chapter of
27 The Links, Incorporated; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
29 milestones, achievements and legacy of Dr. Edith Mitchell of the
30 City of Philadelphia; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor Dr. Edith
2 Mitchell's decades of service to the medical profession,
3 promoting equality and eliminating barriers to health care for
4 underserved populations in this Commonwealth.