

RESOLUTION NO. 20190411-023

WHEREAS, Richard Arvin Overton, widely known in the community as "Mr. Overton," honorably served his country and had a lasting impact on the State of Texas and the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 1906, Mr. Overton was born to Gentry Overton, Sr., and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Overton in Bastrop County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, in 1940, Mr. Overton enlisted in the Army and began his military service at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas; and

WHEREAS, from 1942 to 1945, Mr. Overton bravely served in the Pacific theater, including Guam, Palau, and Iwo Jima, with the 1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion, an all-black unit whose odds-defying efforts contributed in shortening World War II; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Overton earned the Combat Infantry Badge, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Expert Rifle Marksmanship Badge; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Overton returned to Austin, Texas, after the end of World War II and resided here until his death; and

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2016, Mr. Overton became the oldest surviving veteran of the Armed Forces after the death of Frank Levingston, a fellow World War II veteran; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2016, Mr. Overton attained 110 years of age and became a supercentenarian; and

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2017, Mr. Overton became the oldest living man in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Overton died on December 27, 2018; and

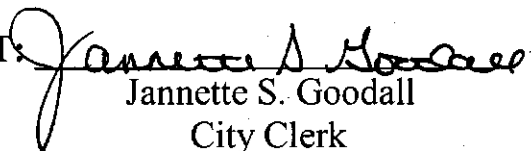
WHEREAS, Mr. Overton was laid to rest with full military honors at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, Texas; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

In celebration of Mr. Overton's life and service, the City supports the passage of Senate Bill 946 and House Bill 1821 for the dedication of a portion of State Loop 111 in Travis County between its northern intersection with Levander Loop and its intersection with Parkwood Road as the Richard Overton Memorial Highway.

ADOPTED: April 11, 2019

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk