

By: Van de Putte

S.C.R. No. 42

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Robert Bernstein, former commissioner of health
3 of the Texas Department of Health and a board member and executive
4 committee member of the Texas Health Institute, passed away on July
5 23, 2007, after a life of outstanding public service; and

6 WHEREAS, A staunch advocate for the improvement of public
7 health in Texas, Dr. Bernstein was named commissioner of health in
8 January of 1980 and served with distinction in that capacity until
9 his retirement in June of 1991; with a tenure of 11 and one-half
10 years, he was the longest-serving commissioner of health in Texas;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, As head of the department, Dr. Bernstein adeptly
13 addressed the major health problems faced by our state and
14 developed an expansive health program that dealt with education,
15 planning, surveillance, epidemiological study, laboratory
16 analysis, environmental protection, regulation, licensure, and
17 complaint investigation; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Bernstein's legacy was a program of broad scope
19 that is still in place and through which today's Department of State
20 Health Services can effectively address the needs of our state's
21 citizens and present-day health issues; and

22 WHEREAS, Section 2165.005, Government Code, establishes a
23 procedure for the naming of a state building by requiring that the
24 proposed designation be submitted to the Texas Facilities

1 Commission and that a concurrent resolution authorizing the
2 designation be passed by the legislature and signed by the
3 governor; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Bernstein was an esteemed public servant and a
5 highly effective administrator who worked tirelessly for the
6 betterment of his community, state, and country in both his
7 professional and personal life; the renaming of Building G of the
8 Department of State Health Services Central Complex in Austin in
9 his honor would be an opportunity for all Texans to pay tribute to
10 his life and to express appreciation for his many contributions to
11 our state; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby approve and authorize the renaming of Building G at the
14 Department of State Health Services Central Complex in Austin as
15 the Dr. Robert Bernstein Building; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward an official
17 copy of this resolution to the executive director of the Texas
18 Facilities Commission.