

1-1 By: Van de Putte S.C.R. No. 42
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2009; March 31, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Administration;
1-4 April 8, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5,
1-5 Nays 0; April 8, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, Dr. Robert Bernstein, former commissioner of health
1-8 of the Texas Department of Health and a board member and executive
1-9 committee member of the Texas Health Institute, passed away on July
1-10 23, 2007, after a life of outstanding public service; and

1-11 WHEREAS, A staunch advocate for the improvement of public
1-12 health in Texas, Dr. Bernstein was named commissioner of health in
1-13 January of 1980 and served with distinction in that capacity until
1-14 his retirement in June of 1991; with a tenure of 11 and one-half
1-15 years, he was the longest-serving commissioner of health in Texas;
1-16 and

1-17 WHEREAS, As head of the department, Dr. Bernstein adeptly
1-18 addressed the major health problems faced by our state and
1-19 developed an expansive health program that dealt with education,
1-20 planning, surveillance, epidemiological study, laboratory
1-21 analysis, environmental protection, regulation, licensure, and
1-22 complaint investigation; and

1-23 WHEREAS, Dr. Bernstein's legacy was a program of broad scope
1-24 that is still in place and through which today's Department of State
1-25 Health Services can effectively address the needs of our state's
1-26 citizens and present-day health issues; and

1-27 WHEREAS, Section 2165.005, Government Code, establishes a
1-28 procedure for the naming of a state building by requiring that the
1-29 proposed designation be submitted to the Texas Facilities
1-30 Commission and that a concurrent resolution authorizing the
1-31 designation be passed by the legislature and signed by the
1-32 governor; and

1-33 WHEREAS, Dr. Bernstein was an esteemed public servant and a
1-34 highly effective administrator who worked tirelessly for the
1-35 betterment of his community, state, and country in both his
1-36 professional and personal life; the renaming of Building G of the
1-37 Department of State Health Services Central Complex in Austin in
1-38 his honor would be an opportunity for all Texans to pay tribute to
1-39 his life and to express appreciation for his many contributions to
1-40 our state; now, therefore, be it

1-41 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
1-42 hereby approve and authorize the renaming of Building G at the
1-43 Department of State Health Services Central Complex in Austin as
1-44 the Dr. Robert Bernstein Building; and, be it further

1-45 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward an official
1-46 copy of this resolution to the executive director of the Texas
1-47 Facilities Commission.

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