

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 970

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Julia C. Hester House in Houston is celebrating  
2 its 70th anniversary in 2013, and this significant milestone  
3 provides a fitting opportunity to recognize the myriad  
4 contributions of this worthwhile organization; and

5           WHEREAS, Established in 1943, Hester House honors the legacy  
6 of educator and activist Julia C. Hester, who opened her home to  
7 neighborhood children in Houston's Fifth Ward in an effort to  
8 ensure their safety and to encourage them to pursue their  
9 education; the organization was established by a diverse committee  
10 of religious, civic, and business leaders with a mission to promote  
11 youth development and self-empowerment and to support area  
12 families; and

13           WHEREAS, Today, Hester House provides a range of commendable  
14 initiatives, including preschool and after-school programs, youth  
15 mentoring, family and social services, and senior citizen  
16 activities; through all of these endeavors, the staff works not  
17 only to address the immediate needs of individuals and families but  
18 to break the cycles of poverty and dependence and to develop  
19 personalized, holistic, and long-term solutions that will lead to  
20 self-sufficiency; and

21           WHEREAS, Located just northeast of downtown Houston, the  
22 organization's 5.5-acre campus consists of a computer lab, a  
23 library, meeting areas, classrooms, staff offices, and a food  
24 pantry; in 2010, ground was broken for a five-stage capital

1 expansion project that will allow the organization to continue  
2 meeting the changing needs of the community in the coming years; and

3 WHEREAS, For seven decades, Hester House has given countless  
4 Texans the tools they need to become engaged and productive members  
5 of the community, and in so doing, it has greatly enriched the  
6 quality of life in the Fifth Ward and the surrounding communities;  
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
9 Legislature hereby honor the Julia C. Hester House in Houston on  
10 its 70th anniversary and extend to all those associated with the  
11 organization sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it  
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for Hester House as an expression of high regard by the  
15 Texas House of Representatives.