

By: Flynn

H.R. No. 2529

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Canton gathered on May 11, 2013, to  
2 celebrate the dedication of an official Texas Historical Marker  
3 honoring the life of one of the city's earliest settlers, G. W.  
4 Tull, Sr.; and

5           WHEREAS, A pioneer in spirit as well as in deed, Mr. Tull  
6 moved to Canton from Tennessee in 1858, after seeking his fortune in  
7 the California gold fields; together with William B. Moore, he  
8 established a successful mercantile business on the southwest  
9 corner of the Canton Courthouse square; Mr. Tull bought out his  
10 partner in 1860 and then operated the store by himself until his  
11 death in 1917; his son, G. W. Tull, Jr., took over the business at  
12 his father's passing and managed it until his own death in 1957; and

13           WHEREAS, Though he never held political office, G. W. Tull,  
14 Sr., played a critical role in setting Canton on a path toward  
15 prosperity; his business served as an anchor for the local business  
16 community during the town's formative years, and in 1877 he helped  
17 finance Canton's campaign to remain the county seat in a dispute  
18 with Wills Point; later, he was responsible for the first brick  
19 construction in the town when he hired H. A. Evans to erect a brick  
20 building to house his store; largely through Mr. Tull's influence,  
21 the town evolved from a dirt-road hamlet into a modern community  
22 with other brick commercial establishments and brick-paved  
23 streets; and

24           WHEREAS, Hosted by the Canton Main Street Program, the

1 dedication ceremony honoring Mr. Tull was followed by a program in  
2 Hillcrest Cemetery arranged by the Hillcrest Cemetery Restoration  
3 Committee; the event featured a costumed performance by Stanley  
4 Tull, who took on the character of his illustrious ancestor; and

5 WHEREAS, A forward-looking businessman and civic leader,  
6 G. W. Tull, Sr., made an immeasurable contribution to securing the  
7 future of his community, and his notable place in Canton's history  
8 is indeed deserving of recognition; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of an official Texas  
11 Historical Marker honoring G. W. Tull, Sr., and commend all those  
12 involved in bringing this worthy project to fruition.