

By: Gervin-Hawkins

H.C.R. No. 113

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The G. J. Sutton State Office Complex in San Antonio
2 served state agencies and the wider community for many years; and

3 WHEREAS, The facility's namesake, Garlington Jerome Sutton,
4 became the first African American elected official in Bexar County
5 in 1948, when he was chosen as a member of the San Antonio Union
6 Junior College District Board of Trustees; he was later elected to
7 the Texas House of Representatives in 1972, earning the distinction
8 of becoming the inaugural representative of District 57-E and the
9 first African American in the legislature from the Alamo City;
10 during his tenure, he served as chair of the Texas Legislative Black
11 Caucus and proposed the acquisition of a new state office building,
12 which was later named in his honor in 1982; he passed away on June
13 22, 1976, at the age of 67; and

14 WHEREAS, In the fall of 2013, the complex was closed after
15 significant structural problems were discovered during maintenance
16 improvements; the property, however, remains highly desirable for
17 its location in a designated historic zone; and

18 WHEREAS, G. J. Sutton was not only a pillar of his community
19 but also a trailblazer for African Americans in public service, and
20 it is essential that this property continue bearing his name so that
21 current and future generations are able to more fully appreciate
22 his achievements; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
24 hereby urge all future owners of the property on which the

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1 G. J. Sutton State Office Complex now stands to preserve the use of
2 Mr. Sutton's name in tribute to his historic legacy in the city of
3 San Antonio and the Lone Star State of Texas.