88R2637 BHH-D

By:  Raymond H.C.R. No. 13

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Honorable Lloyd Millard Bentsen Jr., former United States senator and secretary of the Department of the Treasury, dedicated his life to public service; and

WHEREAS, Born in Mission, Secretary Bentsen graduated from The University of Texas School of Law and then served his country as a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945; a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, he flew 35 missions over Germany, Romania, and Italy and was shot down twice; he led 600 Allied troops and guided the operations of 15 bombers, and he attained the rank of colonel; and

WHEREAS, Secretary Bentsen returned to his hometown after the war, serving the Rio Grande Valley as Hidalgo County judge until 1948, when he was elected to the first of three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives; he then enjoyed success in the private sector before winning election to the U.S. Senate in 1970; following 22 years in that office, he retired from Congress to accept President Bill Clinton's nomination as the secretary of the treasury; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of his long and exceptionally distinguished career in Congress, Secretary Bentsen played a key role in the passage of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, the creation of Individual Retirement Accounts, and the enactment of legislation protecting low-income women and children by providing easier access to health care; his legacy of achievement earned him numerous accolades, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor; he was recognized by The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston for his work to support advancements in medical care for stroke victims; and

WHEREAS, Secretary Bentsen passed away in 2006 at the age of 85 after having made vital contributions to this state and nation, and his tireless endeavors in behalf of his fellow Americans deserve lasting respect and appreciation; naming the Texas Workforce Commission Building in the Capitol Complex in his honor would provide a most fitting tribute to his outstanding accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby direct the Texas Facilities Commission to rename the Texas Workforce Commission Building the Lloyd M. Bentsen State Office Building; and, be it further

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