

By: Cason

H.R. No. 95

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, In the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, members of the  
2 Bedford Fire Department selflessly stepped forward to support their  
3 fellow first responders and help out their neighbors in  
4 storm-ravaged areas of Louisiana; and

5           WHEREAS, Hurricane Ida made landfall as a Category 4 storm  
6 near Port Fourchon, Louisiana, on August 29, 2021, bringing heavy  
7 rains and sustained winds of 150 miles per hour; the storm caused  
8 flash flooding across parts of southern Louisiana, and the extreme  
9 weather knocked out power grids, leaving more than one million  
10 people without electricity; and

11           WHEREAS, The Bedford Fire Department, located in Tarrant  
12 County, Texas, and led by Fire Chief Bill Walker, responded to this  
13 state of emergency by sending eight firefighters to cities in  
14 Louisiana that were severely impacted by the storm; the fire crews  
15 were divided into two groups and deployed in two-week rotations;  
16 serving under Lieutenant Chris Conner were apparatus operator  
17 Justin Whiteside and firefighters Jordan Keefer and Josh Terbush,  
18 and serving under Lieutenant John Henrichsen were apparatus  
19 operator Derek Ray and firefighters Michael Barnhardt and Tom  
20 Harrington; while in Louisiana, they helped with cleanup efforts,  
21 answered emergency calls, and alleviated the burden on local  
22 agencies; and

23           WHEREAS, By traveling out of state to provide assistance to  
24 those who needed it most, these courageous individuals went above

1 and beyond the call of duty, and their actions have earned them the  
2 profound admiration of their fellow Texans; now, therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
4 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend these eight  
5 dedicated members of the Bedford Fire Department for rendering aid  
6 to Louisianans in the wake of Hurricane Ida and extend to each of  
7 them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

8       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
9 prepared for the Bedford Fire Department as an expression of high  
10 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.