

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Juan J. Meza retired as the Zapata County fire chief
2 in December 2020, drawing to a close a distinguished tenure with the
3 department; and

4 WHEREAS, While still a student at Zapata High School, this
5 esteemed public servant began his career as a member of the Zapata
6 County Volunteer Fire Department in 1973; following his graduation,
7 he became the county's assistant civil defense coordinator, and he
8 went on to serve the county as its fire marshal and as its emergency
9 management coordinator; assuming the role of fire chief in 2002, he
10 helped to establish the Zapata County Fire Department, which gained
11 a mobile intensive care unit, paramedics, and rescue dive and
12 hazmat teams during his tenure; and

13 WHEREAS, A graduate of the National Fire Academy, Chief Meza
14 holds certification as an advanced firefighter, an advanced arson
15 investigator, and a master peace officer as well as an emergency
16 medical technician and a code enforcement officer; he has received
17 a number of prestigious accolades over the years, including the
18 Roscoe Gibson Award from the Texas Fire Marshal's Association, a
19 congressional certificate of recognition, and a certificate of
20 commendation from the U.S. Senate, and he was recognized by the
21 Texas Division of Emergency Management in 2019 with induction into
22 its Hall of Fame; and

23 WHEREAS, Chief Meza has given generously of his time and
24 energy to such worthy organizations as the Emergency Management

1 Association of Texas, the Texas Fire Marshal's Association, and the
2 South Texas Fire Investigators Association-RGV; and

3 WHEREAS, Juan Meza's dedication, courage, and
4 professionalism have greatly benefited the residents of Zapata
5 County, and he may reflect with pride on all that he accomplished in
6 his role as fire chief; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate Juan J. Meza on his retirement as
9 chief of the Zapata County Fire Department and extend to him sincere
10 best wishes for continued success in all his endeavors; and, be it
11 further

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

King of Uvalde

H.R. No. 420

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 420 was adopted by the House on April 1, 2021, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House