

By: Springer

S.R. No. 13

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, James E. Smith retired as superintendent of North
2 Texas State Hospital on May 31, 2023, drawing to a close an
3 exceptional career in the Texas mental health system that spanned
4 nearly half a century; and

5 WHEREAS, Jim Smith previously served as chief executive
6 officer and superintendent of the Vernon and Wichita Falls State
7 Hospitals; in 1996, the administrations of the two facilities were
8 combined under his leadership, and in 1998, they were consolidated
9 as what would become North Texas State Hospital; overseeing the
10 state's largest psychiatric hospital, Mr. Smith helped raise the
11 level of care for patients on the facility's three campuses, which
12 today provide inpatient psychiatric services for adults and youth
13 and an adolescent forensic program; and

14 WHEREAS, A licensed clinical social worker and diplomate in
15 clinical social work, Mr. Smith has helped lead numerous mental
16 health organizations; currently, he presides over the Southern
17 States Psychiatric Hospital Association, and he is a past chair of
18 the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
19 Forensic Division; he is involved with the Wichita County
20 Healthcare Coalition, and he has lent his expertise to the Joint
21 Committee on Access and Forensic Services and to the Joint
22 Commission Suicide Risk Reduction Expert Panel; and

23 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to the mission of North Texas State
24 Hospital, Jim Smith played a vital role in promoting the health and

1 well-being of his fellow Texans, and he may indeed reflect with
2 pride on a job well done as he embarks on the next exciting chapter
3 of his life; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 1st
5 Called Session, hereby congratulate James E. Smith on his
6 retirement as superintendent of North Texas State Hospital and
7 extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for Mr. Smith as an expression of high regard by the Texas
10 Senate.