

By: Price

H.R. No. 136

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Steve D. Walthour retired as general manager of the
2 North Plains Groundwater Conservation District on October 1, 2023,
3 concluding more than 16 years of dedicated public service; and

4 WHEREAS, Hired to his position in May 2007, Mr. Walthour has
5 utilized his expertise as a geoscientist to guide the district in
6 its mission to protect and conserve groundwater resources in an
7 eight-county area of the Texas Panhandle; under his leadership, the
8 district has developed outstanding conservation programs and
9 educational resources, which include Master Irrigator Program
10 classes and educational events and initiatives for youth and other
11 members of the public; and

12 WHEREAS, One of the major highlights of Mr. Walthour's tenure
13 was the opening of the district's North Plains Water Conservation
14 Center in 2014; the center is engaged in scientific research on how
15 to successfully cultivate crops such as corn with lower water
16 requirements; in June 2018, the center welcomed visitors from the
17 Texas House of Representatives, including members of the House
18 Natural Resources Committee; and

19 WHEREAS, A registered professional geoscientist,
20 Mr. Walthour earned bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from
21 the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; throughout his
22 40-year-long career, he has led teams of professionals in the
23 development of groundwater management programs using a variety of
24 well-researched practices, and he has held such positions as field

1 geologist, regional subsurface geologist, senior hydrogeologist,
2 and hazardous materials response team manager; moreover, he has
3 served as an international technical consultant on a range of
4 topics, including hydrogeology, groundwater availability,
5 permitting, and water rights litigation; and

6 WHEREAS, Steve Walthour's exceptional knowledge, leadership,
7 and professionalism have greatly benefited the North Plains
8 Groundwater Conservation District and the Texans it has served, and
9 his achievements will be remembered and admired for many years to
10 come; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
12 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby congratulate Steve
13 D. Walthour on his retirement as general manager of the North
14 Plains Groundwater Conservation District and extend to him sincere
15 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for Mr. Walthour as an expression of high regard by the
18 Texas House of Representatives.