

By: Spiller

H.R. No. 1080

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Acting swiftly and decisively, a number of Lampasas
2 County first responders worked together to rescue two children who
3 were trapped inside a cave on March 18, 2023; and

4 WHEREAS, At around 5 p.m. that day, two paramedics from
5 Hamilton EMS were dispatched to a location on the Lampasas River,
6 where it was reported that a cave had collapsed with children
7 inside; the first responders on the scene, which included other
8 EMS, fire service, and law enforcement personnel, discovered that
9 the cave was on the opposite side of the river and down an
10 embankment, where the water was several feet deep; and

11 WHEREAS, The rescuers, who swam across the river to reach the
12 victims, faced the danger involved with entering a cave that had a
13 high probability of collapsing, along with the risks inherent in
14 moving critically injured children across the river to emergency
15 transport; after being safely evacuated from the cave, the two
16 children were assessed to be in stable condition and were
17 transported to area hospitals; in addition to the individuals who
18 heroically placed themselves in harm's way to save the lives of the
19 children in the cave, a number of emergency medical professionals
20 provided urgent care for the victims' injuries; and

21 WHEREAS, Assisting in the effort were paramedics Alexander
22 Haynes and Robert Metheny, EMTs Kyle Keahey and Charles
23 Vandergriff, and paramedic captain Heather Johnson of Hamilton EMS;
24 Wayland Allen, Justin Barkley, Steven Smith, Bailey Harner,

1 Jennifer Lundt, Lexis Hansen, and Chief Cornelia Green of the
2 Kempner Volunteer Fire Department; Frank Potter, Morris Wilkins,
3 and Captain Colton Baker of the Lampasas Fire Department; Jason
4 Collins, Jason Hume, and Sergeant Jerome Ervin of the Lampasas
5 County Sheriff's Office; and Aspen Walker of the Kempner Police
6 Department; and

7 WHEREAS, These exceptional men and women conducted a perilous
8 rescue operation with the utmost professionalism, efficiency, and
9 courage, and through their actions, they prevented a terrible
10 tragedy and earned the heartfelt admiration of a grateful
11 community; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
13 Legislature hereby commend the first responders who went above and
14 beyond to save two children trapped inside a cave in Lampasas County
15 on March 18, 2023, and extend to them sincere appreciation for their
16 outstanding service to their fellow citizens.