

By: Olcott

H.R. No. 161

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In the wake of the devastating tornado that struck  
2 the town of Gordon on May 18, 2025, first responders, government  
3 officials, and volunteers have come together to aid those affected  
4 and begin rebuilding the community; and

5 WHEREAS, The powerful EF-1 tornado touched down that Sunday  
6 evening with winds reaching 105 miles per hour; in just minutes, the  
7 storm damaged 31 homes, knocked out power throughout the area, and  
8 caused extensive destruction to Gordon Independent School District  
9 facilities; the town's sole public school campus was flooded,  
10 forcing the district to cancel classes for the remainder of the  
11 year, and the storm also ripped through the baseball and football  
12 fields and demolished locker rooms, a field house, and storage  
13 structures; and

14 WHEREAS, Emergency crews quickly sprang into action, moving  
15 through hard-hit neighborhoods to assess residents and provide  
16 medical care where needed; thankfully, no lives were lost, and only  
17 minor injuries were reported; and

18 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the disaster, a wave of support  
19 for the community poured in from near and far; first responders and  
20 concerned citizens alike have worked to repair roofs, clear fallen  
21 trees from roadways, distribute water, and offer words of  
22 encouragement to storm victims; businesses, churches, school  
23 districts, and other entities also have taken part in the relief  
24 efforts, and donations came from many generous contributors; and

1           WHEREAS, Those deserving of gratitude for their invaluable  
2 assistance include Chief Arthur James and the Gordon Volunteer Fire  
3 Department; Gordon Mayor Sherrye Mills; Gordon ISD Superintendent  
4 Holly Campbell; Mingus Mayor Vincent "Vinny" Huckaba, City Manager  
5 Wilma Joplin, and the residents of the city of Mingus; Mayor Carl  
6 Frazier and the residents of the city of Strawn; the staff,  
7 families, community members, alumni, and students of Gordon ISD;  
8 Stephenville, Weatherford, Graford, Huckabay, Strawn, Moran,  
9 Dublin, and Santo ISDs; and Abilene Christian School; and

10           WHEREAS, In addition, sincere thanks is owed to Texans on  
11 Mission; the Mineral Wells Noon Lions Club; Knights of Columbus  
12 Council No. 10816 in Stephenville; Pastor Albert Oliveira,  
13 volunteer coordinator Liz Burnett, and First Baptist Church of  
14 Gordon; Pastor Kristen Perkins-Glover and First United Methodist  
15 Church of Gordon; Pastor Mike Batot and Gordon Church of Christ; the  
16 Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation; the Gene and Jerry Jones Family  
17 Foundation and the Dallas Cowboys; Rose Powell and the Ryan Powell  
18 Memorial Foundation; and the Tarleton State University football  
19 team and staff; and

20           WHEREAS, The community's heartfelt appreciation also goes  
21 out to Marcus and Shelby Hinkson of Hink's, as well as the extended  
22 Cathey and Rouse family; Lori and Mike Mackey; Aaron Buck and the  
23 Buck family of 4B Dumpster Services; Jake Wilfong and Rolling J  
24 Dumpsters; the Wilfong family of ABCDUMP; Dean and Sandra Whitlock  
25 of Gordon Stone Company; Patrick and Michelle Henggeler of 1886  
26 Cattle Company; the Richardson and Balch family of Dakotah PHD;  
27 XCaliber Container; Reeder Distributors; Hellas Construction;

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1 C. W. Farris of Harper Perkins Architects; Weatherford Costco; The  
2 Home Depot Weatherford; Texas-New Mexico Power; the Mike and Patsy  
3 Stanley family; and Karen Brunson; and

4 WHEREAS, The impact of this disaster on this small but  
5 close-knit town has called forth a remarkable level of compassion  
6 and cooperation, and it is a pleasure to pay tribute to all those  
7 who have done their part to help the people of Gordon in their time  
8 of need; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
10 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby honor the first responders,  
11 government officials, volunteers, and donors who have assisted in  
12 the recovery from the May 2025 tornado in Gordon and extend  
13 heartfelt best wishes to the town's residents as they continue to  
14 rebuild.