

By: Merritt

H.R. No. 1764

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In the wake of the space shuttle *Columbia* disaster
2 on February 1, 2003, thousands of individuals have participated in
3 the recovery effort, and the members of the Texas Forest Service are
4 particularly deserving of commendation for their role in this
5 mammoth undertaking; and

6 WHEREAS, Working in conjunction with the Federal Emergency
7 Management Agency, NASA, and the Environmental Protection Agency,
8 Forest Service personnel implemented the mission's Incident
9 Command Systems and led all air and ground efforts; they have
10 contributed to the detection, collection, and cataloging of much of
11 the space shuttle debris; and

12 WHEREAS, These dedicated Texans have been instrumental in all
13 aspects of the recovery operation, including command, planning,
14 logistics, operations, finance, and information services; in
15 addition, personnel staffed the Shuttle Material Report Hotline and
16 fielded more than 10,000 calls; and

17 WHEREAS, Texas Forest Service employees have proved to be an
18 invaluable asset in this difficult and dangerous endeavor, and it
19 is a privilege to pay tribute to each and every one involved; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
22 Legislature hereby commend the employees of the Texas Forest
23 Service for their role in the recovery of debris from the space
24 shuttle *Columbia* and extend thanks to these noteworthy individuals

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1 for going above and beyond the call of duty; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for the employees of the Texas Forest Service as an
4 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.