

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 420

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in recognizing the members of the Bridge City Volunteer Fire and Rescue team on the occasion of their 50th anniversary celebration on March 22, 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, The volunteer fire department was originally organized as part of a civil defense unit in 1951 by John Robert Saint and Archie Calhoun; it is renowned as one of the first units in the country to conduct an air raid practice in which the whole population of the town participated; and

**WHEREAS**, A formal election was held in 1952 to name officers, and a constitution and bylaws were written; the group's first fire truck was a scrapped 1929 Chevrolet Fire Truck previously used by the Pure Oil Company of Port Neches, and the first station was built by volunteer firefighters on land bought in 1954 for \$1,000; and

**WHEREAS**, Today the group is called the Orange County Emergency Service District 2 Volunteer Fire Department and serves an area totaling 75 square miles; it consists of some 40 members and operates out of a 10-bay fire station with 24-hour dispatch; its average response time within city limits is less than five minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, The health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of Bridge City have been greatly improved through the efforts of these intrepid volunteers, who give so generously and unselfishly of their time and energy, and they are truly worthy of legislative recognition; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the members of the Bridge City Volunteer Fire and Rescue squad for their outstanding work and extend to them best wishes for an enjoyable 50th anniversary celebration; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for them as an expression of the high regard of the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 20, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate