

By: Howard of Fort Bend

H.R. No. 120

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Chief Ron R. Echols of the Missouri City Police
2 Department retired on January 16, 2009, after an exceptional
3 28-year career with that organization; and

4 WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of Missouri City, Ron Echols
5 began working for the police department in the late 1970s as a
6 part-time communications officer, and in 1980, he joined the ranks
7 as a police officer; over the course of his career, he has completed
8 a range of assignments, including public safety officer, field
9 training officer, and detective; in 1995, he was promoted to
10 lieutenant, and he served as commander of the patrol,
11 administration, and criminal investigation divisions before he was
12 appointed assistant chief in 2001; and

13 WHEREAS, Chief Echols assumed the helm of the Missouri City
14 Police Department in August 2003, and with a clear vision for the
15 future, he built impressively on the agency's strengths and made
16 lasting improvements; his reorganization initiative resulted in
17 the creation of a command staff to manage the various divisions, and
18 he expanded the community policing program; in addition, he
19 instituted bike and ATV patrols, modernized the city's police
20 vehicles, and developed a special-crimes unit that operates in
21 conjunction with the Sugar Land and Stafford Police Departments;
22 Chief Echols also encouraged his department's participation in the
23 Best Practices Recognition Program of the Texas Police Chiefs
24 Association, and under his guidance, Missouri City was named the

1 22nd safest American city of its size by *Congressional Quarterly*;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, A graduate of the FBI National Academy and the FBI
4 Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar, Chief Echols has
5 also earned the Master Peace Officer designation; he has been
6 active in professional organizations such as the FBI National
7 Academy Associates of Texas and the Texas Police Chiefs
8 Association, which he served as Region 14 director and
9 sergeant-at-arms; moreover, he is a former president and member of
10 the executive board of the Houston Area Police Chiefs Association
11 and an associate member of the International Association of Chiefs
12 of Police; and

13 WHEREAS, As Chief Echols takes on his new role as chief of the
14 Live Oak Police Department, he may reflect with pride on the
15 positive influence he has had on his hometown of Missouri City;
16 throughout his distinguished tenure with the city's police force,
17 this esteemed Texan has upheld the highest standards of
18 professionalism and integrity, and his dedicated efforts have
19 contributed immeasurably to the safety and well-being of his fellow
20 citizens; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
22 Legislature hereby congratulate Chief Ron R. Echols on his
23 retirement from the Missouri City Police Department and extend to
24 him sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and,
25 be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for Chief Echols as an expression of high regard by the

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1 Texas House of Representatives.