

By: Harper-Brown

H.R. No. 478

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Irving Police Department has worked with  
2 exceptional skill and dedication to ensure the safety of Irving  
3 residents, and the city's crime rate was reduced to a record low in  
4 2008; and

5           WHEREAS, Police Chief Larry Boyd and his officers have  
6 undertaken a number of crucial initiatives to address the root  
7 causes of crime and disorder; working in close cooperation with  
8 city officials, the department prioritized code enforcement in  
9 keeping with the "broken windows theory" that crime thrives when  
10 neighborhoods are not clean and well kept; one of the most dangerous  
11 streets in the area experienced a 75 percent drop in crime after  
12 neglected buildings were targeted; in addition, 19 substandard  
13 multifamily properties and three rundown motels across the city  
14 were closed, prompting many landlords to swiftly address problems  
15 at their properties; and

16           WHEREAS, The department also increased the police presence at  
17 two troubled apartment complexes, resulting in remarkable  
18 improvements; the department has used volunteers as a valuable  
19 resource and has deployed five new cars for trained citizens to  
20 patrol neighborhoods; in order to reduce vehicle thefts and  
21 burglaries, the force added five sky-watch trailers; moreover, the  
22 department participates in the Criminal Alien Program of United  
23 States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and in a little over two  
24 years referred to ICE a record number of arrestees believed to be in

1 the country illegally; and

2 WHEREAS, Since 2004, Irving's crime rate has fallen steadily  
3 on an annual basis and has declined from 55.12 to 45.30 crimes per  
4 1,000 residents over the past five years; the entire police force  
5 has demonstrated exceptional diligence and professionalism, and  
6 its members can take great pride in their successful efforts to  
7 fight crime; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
9 Legislature hereby commend Chief Larry Boyd and the Irving Police  
10 Department for their noteworthy achievements and extend to them  
11 sincere appreciation for their outstanding work; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for Chief Boyd and the department as an expression of high  
14 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.