

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 2121

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Joel F. Fitzgerald, Sr., has rendered exceptional  
2 service in his capacity as chief of police in Missouri City; and

3 WHEREAS, Chief Fitzgerald assumed his present office in April  
4 2009, and since that time his leadership and commitment have helped  
5 the community of approximately 70,000 residents remain one of the  
6 safest cities in the nation; this distinguished law officer leads a  
7 department of more than 100 employees, and in 2010 he took  
8 justifiable pride in seeing the Missouri City PD named a Recognized  
9 Law Enforcement Agency by the Texas Police Chiefs Association  
10 Foundation; that same year, Chief Fitzgerald received the  
11 President's Award from the Missouri City branch of the NAACP for his  
12 tireless efforts to further the mission of the department and for  
13 his service as a role model for young African American men who  
14 desire to become police officers themselves; and

15 WHEREAS, Joel Fitzgerald began his law enforcement career in  
16 1992 as an officer with the Philadelphia Police Department; over  
17 the course of his 17 years with that agency he established a notable  
18 record of achievement, winning the Officer of the Year award for his  
19 district in 1993 and serving as commanding officer of  
20 Philadelphia's Intensive Drug Investigation Division; as part of  
21 his extensive training, he has attended an FBI certification  
22 program in community policing, as well as the Police Executive  
23 Development Institute at Penn State Abington; and

24 WHEREAS, After graduating from Villanova University with a

1 bachelor of arts degree, Chief Fitzgerald earned a master's degree  
2 in business administration from Eastern University in St. Davids,  
3 Pennsylvania; he is currently pursuing a doctoral degree from  
4 Northcentral University; and

5 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Chief Fitzgerald enjoys the  
6 love and support of his wife, Pauline, an 11-year veteran of the  
7 Philadelphia PD, and their three children; and

8 WHEREAS, Through his unwavering dedication to protecting the  
9 lives and property of his fellow citizens, Joel Fitzgerald has  
10 earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues and the lasting  
11 gratitude of his community, and his record of public service is a  
12 continuing source of inspiration to all who know him; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
15 Legislature hereby commend Police Chief Joel F. Fitzgerald, Sr.,  
16 for his outstanding service to the people of Missouri City and  
17 extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it  
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for Chief Fitzgerald as an expression of high regard by the  
21 Texas House of Representatives.