

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 323

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in recognizing the Fort Worth Office of Emergency Management and its director, Juan Ortiz, for their efforts in the implementation of the Fort Worth Accessible Hazard Alert System; and

**WHEREAS**, This leading-edge system is the result of a partnership with Deaf Link to provide alert messages to registered residents who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing, or deaf and blind; it could benefit an estimated 50,000 people in the Fort Worth area; and

**WHEREAS**, Using American Sign Language and English voice and text, the system will inform individuals of emergencies and disasters in the region; the messages will include information about the crisis and the proper actions to be taken; and

**WHEREAS**, This potentially lifesaving protocol will convey vital information to Internet-linked and video-capable devices such as computers, cellular telephones, and wireless Braille readers; and

**WHEREAS**, By establishing this innovative program, the city becomes a pioneer in creating accessible emergency services; Fort Worth is one of only a few cities nationwide that have implemented such an alert system; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby commend the City of Fort Worth Office of Emergency Management and its director, Juan Ortiz, for establishing the Accessible Hazard Alert System and extend to them best wishes as they move forward with their endeavors; and, be it further

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

Davis

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the  
above Resolution was adopted by  
the Senate on February 27, 2013.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate