

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The life of a dedicated public servant drew to a  
2 close with the passing of former Ponderosa Fire Department fire  
3 chief John Peter O'Gorman on February 18, 2015, at the age of 72;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, A native of Hoboken, New Jersey, John O'Gorman was  
6 born on November 30, 1942, to Arthur and Mary O'Gorman; he graduated  
7 from the University of Notre Dame in 1964 and earned a master's  
8 degree from Michigan State University the following year;  
9 Mr. O'Gorman began his career with Shell Chemical in New York in  
10 1966 and by the early 1970s had transferred to the company's Deer  
11 Park facility; he served as emergency response coordinator there  
12 from January 1981 until his retirement in December 1999; and

13           WHEREAS, John O'Gorman was committed to protecting and  
14 serving his fellow citizens; a charter member of the Ponderosa Fire  
15 Department, he held a number of important leadership positions  
16 within the organization, including those of assistant chief,  
17 training chief, and fire chief; he served in the latter capacity on  
18 three occasions, from 1982 to 1985, 1994 to 1995, and 2000 to 2003;  
19 moreover, he played an instrumental role in the establishment of  
20 the PFD training facility as well as fire stations No. 2 and No. 3;  
21 a valued mentor to a host of fellow firefighters, he retired from  
22 the PFD in 2013 after four decades of dedicated service; and

23           WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman additionally served for  
24 many years as an instructor with the Texas A&M Engineering

1 Extension Service, sharing his skill and expertise with countless  
2 students in its Municipal Fire School; Chief O'Gorman also helped  
3 the Houston Fire Department to develop its HAZMAT Team, and he was a  
4 charter member of the Hazardous Materials Committee of the  
5 International Association of Fire Chiefs; and

6 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, John O'Gorman enjoyed the love  
7 and support of his wife, Elaine; he was the proud father of two  
8 children, Elena and Patrick, and he knew the joy of welcoming two  
9 grandchildren, Madeline and Mary, into his cherished family; and

10 WHEREAS, When not engaged in his family or professional  
11 responsibilities, Chief O'Gorman delighted in woodworking,  
12 collecting fire department patches, and cheering on his beloved  
13 Notre Dame Fighting Irish football team; he was also a valued  
14 congregant of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in New  
15 Braunfels; and

16 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family and his community, John  
17 O'Gorman lived a caring and purposeful life, and he will forever be  
18 remembered with great fondness and respect by his fellow  
19 firefighters and by all who had the good fortune to know him; now,  
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of John Peter O'Gorman  
23 and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his  
24 wife, Mary Elaine Thelen-O'Gorman; to his children, Elena O'Gorman  
25 and Patrick O'Gorman and his wife, Diane; to his grandchildren,  
26 Madeline and Mary O'Gorman; and to his other relatives and many  
27 friends; and, be it further

H.R. No. 1260

1           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
2 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
3 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John Peter  
4 O'Gorman.

Riddle

Straus	González	Paddie
Allen	Guerra	Parker
Alonzo	Guillen	Paul
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Peña
Anchia	Harless	Phelan
Anderson of Dallas	Hernandez	Phillips
Anderson of McLennan	Herrero	Pickett
Ashby	Howard	Price
Aycock	Huberty	Raney
Bell	Hughes	Raymond
Bernal	Hunter	Reynolds
Blanco	Isaac	Riddle
Bohac	Israel	Rinaldi
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Rodriguez of Bexar
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rodriguez of Travis
Burkett	Keffer	Romero, Jr.
Burns	Keough	Rose
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Sanford
Button	King of Parker	Schaefer
Canales	King of Taylor	Schofield
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schubert
Clardy	Klick	Shaheen
Coleman	Koop	Sheets
Collier	Krause	Sheffield
Cook	Kuempel	Simmons
Craddick	Landgraf	Simpson
Crownover	Larson	Smith
Cyrier	Laubenberg	Smithee
Dale	Leach	Spitzer
Darby	Longoria	Springer
Davis of Dallas	Lozano	Stephenson
Davis of Harris	Lucio III	Stickland
Deshotel	Márquez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dukes	Martinez	Thompson of Harris
Dutton	Martinez Fischer	Tinderholt
Elkins	McClendon	Turner of Collin
Faircloth	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Fallon	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farias	Miles	VanDeaver
Farney	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Farrar	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Fletcher	Moody	Walle
Flynn	Morrison	White of Bell
Frank	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Frullo	Murphy	Workman
Galindo	Murr	Wray
Geren	Naishtat	Wu
Giddings	Nevárez	Zedler
Goldman	Oliveira	Zerwas
Gonzales	Otto	

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1260 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 26, 2015.

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Chief Clerk of the House