

By: Springer

H.R. No. 1555

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, First Responder Legislative Day is taking place at the State Capitol on March 25, 2015, and this occasion provides an opportunity to reflect on the courageous efforts of these admirable public servants; and

WHEREAS, The second-oldest monument on the grounds of the State Capitol is the Volunteer Firemen memorial, and it serves as a moving tribute to the valorous service of all firefighters and other emergency response personnel; erected by the State Firemen's Association of Texas in 1896, the bronze statue portrays a fireman carrying a frightened child in his left arm while holding a lantern in his right hand; and

WHEREAS, The granite base of the monument is inscribed with the names of Texas volunteer firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty, and on this day, 21 fallen heroes are being added to the list: Chief Charles "Ted" Richardson of the Alvarado Volunteer Fire Department, Gregory Mack Simmons of the Eastland Fire Department, Elias Macias Jaquez of the Cactus Fire Department, Larry Gale Nelson of the Val Verde County Rural Volunteer Fire Department, Matt Waller of the Memphis Fire Department, Mark Shepherd of the Rosehill Volunteer Fire Department, William Richard "Dick" Danes of the Brazos County Precinct 3 Fire Department, Captain Neal Wade Smith of the Atascocita Volunteer Fire Department, Jalen Smith of the Jackson Heights Volunteer Fire Department, Assistant Chief David Fox of the Bluebonnet Volunteer

H.R. No. 1555

Fire Department, Donald Mize of the League City Volunteer Fire Department, Jerry Chapman and Captain Cyrus Reed of the Abbott Volunteer Fire Department, Kevin Sanders of the Bruceville-Eddy Volunteer Fire Department, Perry Calvin of the Martens Volunteer Fire Department, Morris Bridges, Cody Dragoo, Joseph Pustejovsky, Captain Douglas Snokhous, and Captain Robert Snokhous of the West Volunteer Fire Department, and Chief Hugh Ferguson of the Damon Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Every hour of every day, the first responders of Texas stand ready to come to the aid of their fellow citizens, and these dedicated men and women are truly deserving of our heartfelt praise and gratitude; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate First Responder Legislative Day at the State Capitol and pay tribute to the service of the first responders of Texas, both past and present.