

By: Sheets

H.R. No. 2498

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In a heroic effort in the early morning hours, two
2 officers of the Mesquite Police Department, assisted by a private
3 citizen, rescued a man from a burning car; and

4 WHEREAS, Shortly after 4 a.m. on April 19, 2015, Zachary
5 Shipman, a Mesquite native who is now a member of the U.S. Navy, was
6 traveling on Interstate Highway 30 after leaving his parents' home
7 with his wife to travel to his new posting in Virginia; in the
8 predawn darkness, the couple came upon a traffic accident that had
9 taken place just moments before; a car that had collided with a
10 steel pillar was on fire, and the driver was trapped inside; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Shipman immediately dialed 911, and Officer
12 Ryan Nielson and Officer Autumn Soto quickly responded to the call;
13 when they arrived at the scene, the front of the car was engulfed in
14 flames, and the clothes of the unconscious driver were already on
15 fire; and

16 WHEREAS, With only moments to spare, and with little thought
17 for their own safety, Officers Nielson and Soto worked quickly to
18 free the trapped man, and with the help of Mr. Shipman, they pulled
19 the driver from the car and carried him to safety; and

20 WHEREAS, After an ambulance arrived, the victim of the crash
21 was transported to a local hospital, where he was categorized in
22 critical condition, with burns and internal injuries; and

23 WHEREAS, In recognition of his participation in the rescue,
24 Mr. Shipman was presented with a Citizen Certificate of Merit by

1 the Mesquite Police Department; and

2 WHEREAS, Thanks to the swift, skillful, and fearless action
3 of Officers Nielson and Soto, as well as the compassion and bravery
4 demonstrated by Mr. Shipman, an individual was saved from a
5 desperate situation, and these three heroes may indeed take great
6 pride in their actions on that fateful morning; now, therefore, be
7 it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
9 Legislature hereby commend Officer Ryan Nielson, Officer Autumn
10 Soto, and Mr. Zachary Shipman for their dramatic rescue of a
11 traffic crash victim and extend to them sincere best wishes for the
12 future; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
14 for Officer Nielson, Officer Soto, and Mr. Shipman as an expression
15 of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.