By: Springer H.R. No. 1753

## RESOLUTION

- 1 WHEREAS, During the month of March 2017, the Texas Panhandle
- 2 suffered multiple, massive wildfires, and Gary Wright of the
- 3 Samnorwood Volunteer Fire Department was part of a coalition of
- 4 first responders who fought heroically and tenaciously to save the
- 5 lives and property of Texans in the region; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Fueled by dry vegetation, high winds, and
- 7 unseasonably hot weather, the fast-moving wildfires broke out on
- 8 March 6 and raged for days, destroying around 500,000 acres of Texas
- 9 prairie land and resulting in the death of four people; the fires
- 10 were some of the largest in state history and led to Governor Greg
- 11 Abbott's declaring a state of emergency in six counties; and
- 12 WHEREAS, The combined efforts of fire personnel from around
- 13 and beyond the region, including members of local volunteer fire
- 14 departments, were needed to contain the blazes; working exhausting
- 15 hours in perilous conditions, these dedicated individuals risked
- 16 their lives to halt the fires' rampage and rescue residents, and
- 17 their contributions were vital to averting further tragedy and
- 18 destruction; and
- 19 WHEREAS, In answering the call of duty during this
- 20 catastrophic crisis, Gary Wright demonstrated an extraordinary
- 21 commitment to protecting the safety of his fellow citizens, and he
- 22 has earned the enduring gratitude and admiration of Texans across
- 23 the state; now, therefore, be it
- 24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas

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- 1 Legislature hereby commend Gary Wright of the Samnorwood Volunteer
- 2 Fire Department for his bravery, skill, and dedication in fighting
- 3 the Texas Panhandle wildfires of March 2017 and extend to him
- 4 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further
- 5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 6 prepared for Mr. Wright as an expression of high regard by the Texas
- 7 House of Representatives.