R E S O L U T I O N

1   WHEREAS, During the month of March 2017, the Texas Panhandle

2 suffered multiple, massive wildfires, and Luke Horton of the

3 Wheeler Volunteer Fire Department was part of a coalition of first

4 responders who fought heroically and tenaciously to save the lives

5 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, Luke Horton 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

1 Legislature hereby commend Luke Horton of the Wheeler 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. Horton as an expression of high regard by the Texas
7 House of Representatives.

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H.R. No. 1804

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Speaker of the House

    I certify that H.R. No. 1804 was adopted by the House on May 12, 2017, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House