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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Honorable James R. Cowart retired as justice of 3 the peace for Smith County Precinct 5 on December 31, 2018, 4 concluding a noteworthy tenure that spanned 27 years; and

5 WHEREAS, First elected in 1991, Judge Cowart demonstrated 6 exceptional dedication to his responsibilities, and he skillfully 7 guided the court as it grew to meet the needs of the community; it 8 once shared a small building with the precinct constable's office 9 and today occupies a 6,000-square-foot complex with a staff of five 10 clerks; and

WHEREAS, Judge Cowart has completed more than 600 hours of 11 12 continued education in a wide range of subjects related to the 13 justice court, including civil, traffic, criminal, and juvenile law; he is a member of the Justice of the Peace and Constables 14 15 Association of Texas and of the Texas Justice Court Judges Association, which named him 2014 Judge of the Year; in addition, he 16 is a lifetime member and former president of the East Texas Justice 17 of the Peace and Constables Association; and 18

WHEREAS, Deeply committed to his community, Judge Cowart sits on the board of the Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce, and he previously served as its president; he is also a member of the Mt. Sylvan and Lindale Masonic Lodges and a deacon at Central Baptist Church; a former president of the Lindale Athletic Booster Club, he remains an avid Lindale Eagles fan; he is supported in all

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his endeavors by the love and encouragement of his wife, Brenda Boaz
Cowart, and he is the proud father of two sons, Justin and Jody, and
grandfather of Ryan, Dryver, and Fielder; and

WHEREAS, Judge Cowart has greatly benefited his fellow citizens through his leadership, professionalism, and commitment to excellence, and he may indeed reflect with satisfaction on a career well spent; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas 9 hereby honor James R. Cowart for his outstanding service as justice 10 of the peace for Smith County Precinct 5 and extend to him sincere 11 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 13 prepared for Judge Cowart as an expression of high regard by the 14 Texas Senate and House of Representatives.

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President of the Senate Speaker of the House I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 8 was adopted by the Senate on February 19, 2019.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 8 was adopted by the House on March 6, 2019.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor