

By: Hughes

S.C.R. No. 8

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

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

10 WHEREAS, Judge Cowart has completed more than 600 hours of
11 continued education in a wide range of subjects related to the
12 justice court, including civil, traffic, criminal, and juvenile
13 law; he is a member of the Justice of the Peace and Constables
14 Association of Texas and of the Texas Justice Court Judges
15 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
19 on the board of the Lindale Area Chamber of Commerce, and he
20 previously served as its president; he is also a member of the
21 Mt. Sylvan and Lindale Masonic Lodges and a deacon at Central
22 Baptist Church; a former president of the Lindale Athletic Booster
23 Club, he remains an avid Lindale Eagles fan; he is supported in all
24 his endeavors by the love and encouragement of his wife, Brenda Boaz

1 Cowart, and he is the proud father of two sons, Justin and Jody, and
2 grandfather of Ryan, Dryver, and Fielder; and

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

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

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