

By: Tinderholt

H.R. No. 43

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Arlington Fire Department TIFMAS
2 strike team demonstrated exceptional commitment and bravery by
3 helping to battle wildfires in California in September and October
4 of 2020; and

5 WHEREAS, The Arlington unit was formed in 2011 as part of the
6 Texas Interstate Fire Mutual Aid System, a state-funded regional
7 deployment initiative established to fight large-scale wildfires;
8 the North Texas TIFMAS contingent sent to California included
9 personnel from the Fort Worth and Flower Mound Fire Departments,
10 and the Arlington FD was represented by strike team leaders Chris
11 Balough and Jeff Durand, engine bosses Shawn Corder and Brandon
12 Reynolds, and firefighters Joseph Markham, Danny Martin, David
13 Oliver, and Ryan King; and

14 WHEREAS, Deployed for more than three weeks, the team
15 traveled over 6,000 miles in assisting California firefighters
16 during the state's worst wildfire season on record; the unit was
17 assigned to the August Complex Fire in Northern California, near
18 Ukiah, and employed five brush trucks and a strike team leader
19 vehicle in battling the massive blaze; assignments included
20 patrolling fire lines, extinguishing hotspots, laying hose lines,
21 and setting backfires to burn vegetation in front of advancing
22 flames; and

23 WHEREAS, In answering the call of duty during this
24 catastrophic crisis, the members of the Arlington Fire Department

1 TIFMAS strike team risked their own safety to protect and serve
2 their fellow Americans, and they have earned the profound
3 admiration of their community and state; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
5 Legislature hereby commend the Arlington Fire Department TIFMAS
6 strike team for its outstanding service during the recent wildfires
7 in California and extend to its members sincere best wishes for the
8 future; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for the firefighters as an expression of high regard by the
11 Texas House of Representatives.