

By: Dean

H.R. No. 582

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Chief J. P. Steelman of the Longview Fire Department
2 was appointed chair of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection by
3 Governor Greg Abbott in March 2021; and

4 WHEREAS, A firefighter since 1985, J. P. Steelman joined the
5 Longview Fire Department in 1990; he was promoted to
6 driver/engineer in 1998, and in 2000, he was transferred to the
7 Training Division as a training/safety officer; he returned to
8 Operations in 2003 with a promotion to captain, and he was appointed
9 senior captain in 2006 and battalion chief in 2007; he was named
10 city fire chief in 2010; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout his exemplary 30-year tenure with the
12 department, Chief Steelman has been active with the Water
13 Rescue/Dive Team, the Hazmat/Special Operations Team, the
14 Recruiting Team, and the Hiring Board, and he is a charter member of
15 the Honor Guard; a licensed paramedic, he has earned numerous
16 certifications, including the Executive Fire Officer certification
17 from the National Fire Academy and the Certified Fire Executive
18 designation from the Texas Fire Chiefs Academy; and

19 WHEREAS, A statewide leader in his profession, Chief Steelman
20 served on the Firefighter Advisory Committee of the Texas
21 Commission on Fire Protection from 2007 to 2017, when he was
22 appointed as a commissioner; he has served as regional director for
23 the Northeast Region of the Texas Fire Chiefs Association and as a
24 member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the Texas

1 Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System, the Texas Emergency Management
2 Assistance Team, the East Texas Council of Governments Homeland
3 Security Advisory Committee, and Texas A&M Task Force 1; since
4 1996, he has taught at the Kilgore College Fire Academy, where he
5 earned an associate's degree in the area of fire protection
6 technology and fire protection certification; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Steelman has also found time to give back to his
8 community as a member and former president of the Longview-Greggton
9 Rotary Club and through his service on the board of SeeSaw
10 Children's Place and the citizen's advisory panel for the Sabine
11 Industrial District; in all his endeavors, he enjoys the love and
12 support of his wife, Becky, and their four children; and

13 WHEREAS, Chief Steelman's dedication, expertise, and
14 commitment to the safety of the public have greatly benefited the
15 citizens of his city and his state, and he may indeed reflect with
16 pride on his many achievements as he takes on the challenges and
17 opportunities of his prestigious new position; now, therefore, be
18 it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
20 Legislature hereby commend Chief J. P. Steelman on his appointment
21 as chair of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection and extend to
22 him sincere best wishes for a successful tenure; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Chief Steelman as an expression of high regard by the
25 Texas House of Representatives.