

By: Murphy

H.R. No. 929

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lavergne Schwender is retiring as executive
2 director of the Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network in
3 May 2021, drawing to a close an exemplary tenure with the network
4 that has spanned nearly four decades; and

5 WHEREAS, The Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network is
6 the largest 9-1-1 system in Texas and the second largest in the
7 United States, serving 48 cities in Harris and Fort Bend Counties;
8 in the early 1980s, Lavergne Schwender joined the network as its
9 legal counsel, and since May 2005, she has been its executive
10 director, responsible for administering its overall operations as
11 well as guiding the network through the rapid changes in
12 telecommunications technologies over the past 16 years; under her
13 leadership, the network received the Outstanding 9-1-1 Program
14 Award from the NG9-1-1 Institute in 2011; and

15 WHEREAS, Ms. Schwender has long been a state pioneer in 9-1-1
16 services; in 1983, she supported legislation that created the
17 Harris County system, which was the model for subsequent 9-1-1
18 districts, and she has played an equally important role in
19 additional 9-1-1 legislation and amendments, including the passage
20 of the statewide 9-1-1 wireless fee and the creation of tariffs that
21 have helped fund other 9-1-1 systems across the state; she also
22 helped establish the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance; and

23 WHEREAS, A native of Houston, Ms. Schwender has been a
24 Dominican nun since 1963; she taught at several Catholic schools

1 while earning a master's degree in business administration at The
2 University of Texas, and she went on to receive a law degree from
3 the University of Houston; she was an attorney for 21 years with the
4 Harris County Attorney's Office, where she first became involved
5 with 9-1-1 legislation; and

6 WHEREAS, Lavergne Schwender's dedication, expertise, and
7 long-term commitment to the mission of the 9-1-1 system have
8 greatly benefited her fellow Texans and earned her the respect and
9 admiration of her peers, and she may indeed reflect with pride on a
10 career well spent as she embarks on the next exciting chapter of her
11 life; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
13 Legislature hereby congratulate Lavergne Schwender on her
14 retirement from the Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network
15 and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be
16 it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for Ms. Schwender as an expression of high regard by the
19 Texas House of Representatives.