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By:  Metcalf H.R. No. 2296

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is pleased to recognize the officers and staff of Region VII of the Texas Department of Public Safety for their commitment to protecting and serving the legislators and state employees of the Capitol Complex in Austin; and

WHEREAS, Since September 1991, the men and women of Region VII have been responsible for the security of the 46 square-block area around the State Capitol that encompasses many state government facilities; supervised by the regional commander, the region's staff includes commissioned and noncommissioned personnel who are divided into details that cover the complex; and

WHEREAS, Their responsibilities include providing police and security patrol of the Capitol grounds, traffic supervision and enforcement, parking administration, protection for visiting dignitaries, monitoring surveillance cameras, and staffing the x-ray machines and metal detectors at the Capitol's entrances; in addition, the region's skilled and dedicated personnel also investigate crimes, conduct vulnerability assessments to mitigate risk, and deal with crowd control during rallies and demonstrations on the Capitol grounds; and

WHEREAS, Those deserving of special recognition for their hard work and professionalism include Regional Director Scotty Shiver, Major Chris Jones, Major Gabe Ortiz, Captain Tim Caradine, Captain Tony Rodriguez, Captain Ralph Ohland, Lieutenant Craig Henry, Lieutenant Billy Shelton, and Security Operations Manager Kari Raesz; and

WHEREAS, For more than three decades, the officers of Region VII of the DPS have worked tirelessly to maintain law, order, and civility in the Capitol Complex, allowing the state's legislators and employees to safely and securely conduct the people's business; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas Legislature hereby commend Region VII of the Texas Department of Public Safety for its outstanding record of protecting the Capitol Complex in Austin and extend to the region's officers and civilian staff sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Region VII as an expression of gratitude and high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.