

By: Troxclair

H.R. No. 48

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt by  
2 the family, friends, and colleagues of Chief Michael Eugene  
3 Phillips of the Marble Falls Area Volunteer Fire Department, who  
4 died in the line of duty on July 5, 2025, at the age of 66; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Del Rio on September 25, 1958, Michael  
6 Phillips was the son of Carl and Irene Phillips, and he grew up with  
7 a sister, Deborah; after high school graduation, he joined the  
8 U.S. Air Force and worked on jet engines for almost a decade; he  
9 next obtained degrees in electronics and fire science; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1995, Mr. Phillips began a 30-year career with  
11 the Marble Falls Area Volunteer Fire Department; rising to the  
12 position of chief in 2016, he earned a reputation for leading with  
13 humility, compassion, and strength; a certified emergency medical  
14 technician and master firefighter, he was also a Level III  
15 instructor, and he trained countless firefighters across Texas; and

16 WHEREAS, Chief Phillips also achieved distinction as the  
17 maintenance director and bond director for the Marble Falls  
18 Independent School District; he spent 28 years there, directing  
19 facility operations and major construction and renovations; and

20 WHEREAS, At about 4:30 a.m. on July 5, as catastrophic  
21 flooding swept through Burnet County, the Marble Falls fire  
22 department received a call that individuals were trapped in water  
23 near Cow Creek; Chief Phillips was the first on the scene;  
24 demonstrating remarkable bravery, he was in the process of

1 attempting a rescue when he was swept into the creek by the surging  
2 floodwaters; his tragic death has inspired an outpouring of prayers  
3 and support from citizens across the region, and he was  
4 posthumously honored during a ceremony as part of the annual First  
5 Responders Night at the Marble Falls Rodeo; and

6 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Chief Phillips benefited from  
7 the love and support of his wife of nearly five decades, Cecilia,  
8 their daughter, Megan, and their two grandchildren; and

9 WHEREAS, Michael Phillips lived a life defined by courage and  
10 integrity, and he leaves behind a record of service that will long  
11 resonate in Marble Falls and beyond; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
13 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory  
14 of Chief Michael Eugene Phillips and extend profound condolences to  
15 the members of his family: to his wife, Cecilia; to his daughter,  
16 Megan, and her husband; to his grandchildren, Paxton and Ryker; to  
17 his sister, Deborah; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be  
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Chief  
22 Michael Phillips.