

By: Olcott

H.R. No. 126

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In the wake of the devastating tornado that struck
2 the town of Gordon on May 18, 2025, first responders, government
3 officials, and volunteers have come together to aid those affected
4 and begin rebuilding the community; and

5 WHEREAS, The powerful EF-1 tornado touched down that Sunday
6 evening with winds reaching 105 miles per hour; in just minutes, the
7 storm damaged 31 homes, knocked out power throughout the area, and
8 caused extensive destruction to Gordon Independent School District
9 facilities; the town's sole public school campus was flooded,
10 forcing the district to cancel classes for the remainder of the
11 year, and the storm also ripped through the baseball and football
12 fields and demolished locker rooms, a field house, and storage
13 structures; and

14 WHEREAS, Emergency crews quickly sprang into action, moving
15 through hard-hit neighborhoods to assess residents and provide
16 medical care where needed; thankfully, no lives were lost, and only
17 minor injuries were reported; and

18 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the disaster, a wave of support
19 for the community poured in from near and far; first responders and
20 concerned citizens alike have worked to repair roofs, clear fallen
21 trees from roadways, distribute water, and offer words of
22 encouragement to storm victims; businesses, churches, school
23 districts, and other entities also have taken part in the relief
24 efforts, and donations came from many generous contributors; and

1 WHEREAS, Those deserving of gratitude for their invaluable
2 assistance include Chief Arthur James and the Gordon Volunteer Fire
3 Department; Mayor Vincent "Vinny" Huckaba, City Manager Wilma
4 Joplin, and the residents of the city of Mingus; Mayor Carl Frazier
5 and the residents of the city of Strawn; the staff, families,
6 community members, alumni, and students of Gordon ISD;
7 Stephenville, Weatherford, Graford, Huckabay, Strawn, Moran,
8 Dublin, and Santo ISDs; and Abilene Christian School; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition, sincere thanks is owed to Texans on
10 Mission; the Mineral Wells Noon Lions Club; Knights of Columbus
11 Council No. 10816 in Stephenville; Pastor Albert Oliveira,
12 volunteer coordinator Liz Burnett, and First Baptist Church of
13 Gordon; Pastor Kristen Perkins-Glover and First United Methodist
14 Church of Gordon; Pastor Mike Batot and Gordon Church of Christ; the
15 Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation; the Gene and Jerry Jones Family
16 Foundation and the Dallas Cowboys; Rose Powell and the Ryan Powell
17 Memorial Foundation; and the Tarleton State University football
18 team and staff; and

19 WHEREAS, The community's heartfelt appreciation also goes
20 out to Marcus and Shelby Hinkson of Hink's, as well as the extended
21 Cathey and Rouse family; Lori and Mike Mackey; Aaron Buck and the
22 Buck family of 4B Dumpster Services; Jake Wilfong and Rolling J
23 Dumpsters; the Wilfong family of ABCDUMP; Dean and Sandra Whitlock
24 of Gordon Stone Company; Patrick and Michelle Henggeler of 1886
25 Cattle Company; the Richardson and Balch family of Dakotah PHD;
26 XCaliber Container; Reeder Distributors; Hellas Construction;
27 C. W. Farris of Harper Perkins Architects; Weatherford Costco; The

1 Home Depot Weatherford; Texas-New Mexico Power; the Mike and Patsy
2 Stanley family; and Karen Brunson; and

3 WHEREAS, The impact of this disaster on this small but
4 close-knit town has called forth a remarkable level of compassion
5 and cooperation, and it is a pleasure to pay tribute to all those
6 who have done their part to help the people of Gordon in their time
7 of need; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
9 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby honor the first responders,
10 government officials, volunteers, and donors who have assisted in
11 the recovery from the May 2025 tornado in Gordon and extend
12 heartfelt best wishes to the town's residents as they continue to
13 rebuild.