

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Three members of the Pharr Fire Department,
2 Battalion Chief Sergio Vasquez and engineers Jesus Gonzalez and
3 Charlie Cavazos, went above and beyond the call of duty to assist in
4 fighting the catastrophic wildfires that swept across Southern
5 California in January 2025; and

6 WHEREAS, The fires broke out in Los Angeles and were fueled by
7 extreme drought conditions and powerful Santa Ana winds, which
8 reached speeds of up to 80 miles per hour; as the blazes spread
9 across Los Angeles County, nearly 200,000 residents were forced to
10 evacuate, and at least 28 people tragically lost their lives; fires
11 in the hardest-hit areas raged for weeks, overwhelming local
12 firefighters' attempts to control them; the economic impact of the
13 disaster is projected at some \$150 billion, making it one of the
14 costliest in modern United States history; and

15 WHEREAS, With the fires threatening neighborhoods and entire
16 communities across the region, a team from the Pharr Fire
17 Department courageously answered the call for assistance,
18 mobilizing with seven other agencies as part of the Alamo Strike
19 Team and the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System; these highly
20 trained and dedicated individuals worked side by side with
21 firefighters from around the country to contain the blazes and help
22 protect the lives and property of those who were in the path of
23 destruction; facing a task that at times seemed impossible, they
24 braved treacherous conditions, worked through exhaustion, and

1 willingly committed to spending weeks away from their families to
2 render aid; notably, the Pharr Fire Department was the only fire
3 department south of San Antonio that stepped forward to help during
4 this crisis; and

5 WHEREAS, These individuals distinguished themselves through
6 their willingness to venture far from home and put themselves in
7 harm's way at a time of desperate need, and through their actions,
8 they have provided a testament to the strength of the Pharr
9 community and the spirit of solidarity that unites us as Americans;
10 now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
12 Legislature hereby commend Battalion Chief Sergio Vasquez and
13 engineers Jesus Gonzalez and Charlie Cavazos of the Pharr Fire
14 Department for deploying to California to battle the historic 2025
15 wildfires and extend to them sincere appreciation for their
16 selfless dedication to their duties in and beyond their community;
17 and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
19 for the City of Pharr and for Mr. Vasquez, Mr. Gonzalez, and
20 Mr. Cavazos as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of
21 Representatives.

Muñoz

H.R. No. 399

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 399 was adopted by the House on March 13, 2025, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House