

RESOLUTION NO. 7-83

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, SUPPORTING THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO POLICE AND FIRE CIVIL SERVICE (1269M); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF.

WHEREAS, it is one of the basic responsibilities of the City of Mesquite to protect the life and property of its citizens through the operations of efficient, reliable and affordable police and fire departments, and;

WHEREAS, it is increasingly evident from more than 35 years of experience that a major barrier in the City of Mesquite's way in providing its citizens with the best police and fire service possible is an antiquated state law commonly known as 1269m which dictates to cities how officers and firefighters will be promoted and disciplined without regard for local circumstances, and;

WHEREAS, there is documented evidence from all sectors of the State of Texas that the 55 cities which today are under 1269m have seen their police and fire chiefs transformed from managers into administrators by new limits lobbied into the law every two years by unions representing the police officers and firefighters, and;

WHEREAS, these increasingly harmful provisions have made 1269m a law which fosters wasteful expenditures and inefficient management at a time when cities see revenue dwindling, and;

WHEREAS, after long study and due deliberations, the 55 Texas cities under 1269m are joining in a concerted effort to amend the law in the upcoming Legislature by giving police and fire chiefs the power to manage their departments, but to retain portions of the law which give civil service employees necessary protections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Believes that it is time to return common sense into Texas Police and fire stations by amending 1269m to allow police and fire chiefs to manage their departments more effectively through the appointment of qualified deputies of their choice, use of improved promotion system techniques, more reasonable disciplinary rules and other relevant changes, and;

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Mesquite supports the Texas Municipal League's 1269m Police Force amendments to 1269m because it does address issues which will return management back to police and fire chiefs, and;

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SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Mesquite now calls on all Texas legislators, especially those representing the citizens of our city, to support the Task Force legislation which makes the necessary changes to 1269m, and;

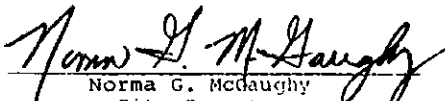
SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that every citizen of this city, every business and the Chamber of Commerce, plus other organizations, take a stand in favor of improvements to 1269m which will return common sense back to Texas police and fire stations.

SECTION 5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage as the charter in such cases provides.

DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on this 7th day of February, A.D., 1983.

ATTEST:


LEN GIBBENS
MAYOR


Norma G. McDaughy
City Secretary