



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 18-006

BY SENATOR(S) Garcia and Hill, Baumgardner, Cooke, Coram, Court, Crowder, Donovan, Fenberg, Gardner, Guzman, Holbert, Jahn, Jones, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Moreno, Neville T., Priola, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Zenzinger, Grantham;

also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Exum and Pabon, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Beckman, Benavidez, Bridges, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Catlin, Coleman, Covarrubias, Danielson, Esgar, Everett, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Humphrey, Jackson, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, Leonard, Lewis, Liston, Lontine, Lundeen, McKean, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Neville P., Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Reyher, Roberts, Rosenthal, Saine, Sandridge, Sias, Singer, Thurlow, Valdez, Van Winkle, Weissman, Willett, Williams D., Wilson, Winter, Wist, Young, Duran.

CONCERNING THE COMMEMORATION OF THE ONE-HUNDRED-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS.

WHEREAS, The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) was founded 100 years ago on February 28, 1918, in Washington, D.C., when 36 delegates selected from 24 local organizations gathered to attend the first IAFF convention; and

WHEREAS, The IAFF was established to meet the needs of the emerging fire fighting profession, whose individuals had previously been operating unpaid for their services until the 1850s, and without safety and operational standards; and

WHEREAS, At the start of the IAFF, fire fighters worked 24-hour shifts on continuous duty for very low wages, and the IAFF worked to establish better working conditions, benefits, and fair wages for fire

fighters, and also created the Fire Fighters Fund to benefit the children of fallen fire fighters; and

WHEREAS, The fire fighting profession became a dependable job during the Great Depression of the 1930s, and during that time fire fighters benefited from improvements in safety technology, including the two-way radio, improved breathing equipment, and modern fire apparatus; and

WHEREAS, In 1934, 16 years after its creation, the IAFF was praised by the National Fire Protection Association, the United States Department of Agriculture, and other groups for playing a crucial role in fire reduction, education, and research; and

WHEREAS, When the United States joined the Allied Forces and entered World War II, IAFF fire fighters willingly served their nation and were uniquely equipped to do so; and

WHEREAS, The December 1941 issue of the IAFF's "Fire Fighter" magazine declared to its members: "The fire fighters of the Nation, in particular, have a distinct service to perform. Already well organized, trained, and accustomed to discipline and the orderly performance of their duties under any and all conditions, and with complete disregard of any personal danger, fire fighters may be expected to set an example of their fellow citizens in the trying days that lay ahead."; and

WHEREAS, The IAFF helped coordinate members during World War II to ensure fire fighters were available to help both at home and on the front, and when fire fighters returned from war, the IAFF worked to ensure members would return to their firehouses and that disabled fire fighters could find positions in the fire service; and

WHEREAS, The creation and development of the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) in the 1960s was ushered in with the support of the IAFF, and today the IAFF Fire and EMS Operations/GIS Department provides comprehensive information on fire departments and fire-based EMS and promotes appropriate staffing and deployment for fire suppression and effectiveness of fire-based emergency medical services systems; and

WHEREAS, The IAFF has also stepped up to help during tragedy. In addition to providing logistical support at Ground Zero after 9/11, the

IAFF sent stress management teams to aid grieving members and their families, and in 2002 distributed more than \$96 million to the families of fire fighters killed in the attacks; and

WHEREAS, In the aftermath of 9/11, IAFF leadership participated in the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and ensured that fire fighters would have prominent roles within the department; and

WHEREAS, The members of the IAFF are also on the front lines of national emergency response, including hurricanes and natural disasters, and contribute time and resources to international charity efforts that better the lives of children and families; and

WHEREAS, Today, the IAFF continues to be the primary advocate for providing fire fighters and paramedics with the tools they need to perform their jobs and protect over 75% of North American citizens; and

WHEREAS, The IAFF has been the leader in the advancement of improving the service fire fighters provide and the livelihood of the members who risk their lives to keep our communities safe; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that we honor the IAFF for their contributions and commemorate their 100th anniversary; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That we, the Colorado General Assembly, congratulate the International Association of Fire Fighters on their 100 years of service to the brave men and women in the fire fighting profession and their families.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to IAFF General President Harold A. Schaitberger, IAFF General

Secretary-Treasurer Edward Kelly, IAFF 9th District Vice-President Ray R. Rahne, and CFFF President Michael Frainier.

Kevin J. Grantham
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Crisanta Duran
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
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Effie Ameen
SECRETARY OF
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