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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize the 150th anniversary of the
4 founding of the Elgin Fire Department; and

5 WHEREAS, On September 16, 1867, the Elgin Fire Department
6 began with the organization of the Elgin Hook and Ladder
7 Company, aptly named after the first apparatus; the first fire
8 station was erected on North Spring Street near East Chicago
9 Street; and

10 WHEREAS, On July 1, 1869, the Elgin Fire Department
11 purchased a Silsby steam fire engine, later named after James
12 T. Gifford; in October of 1870, the department assisted the
13 Chicago Fire Department by sending the James T. Gifford steam
14 fire engine by railroad flat car to assist with the Great
15 Chicago Fire; the Elgin Fire Department continues to provide
16 aid to neighboring communities; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1974, the Elgin Fire Department began providing
18 advanced emergency medical care through the use of paramedic
19 trained firefighters; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1987, the Elgin Fire Department museum was
21 established in the Old Main Museum; in 1991 when Fire Station

1 #5 was decommissioned, the Elgin Fire Department Museum was
2 re-established at that facility; and

3 WHEREAS, As the City of Elgin has grown, the Elgin Fire
4 Department has expanded its mission to include an "all hazards"
5 approach to emergency response, operating from seven fire
6 stations; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 recognize the 150th anniversary of the Elgin Fire Department,
10 and we wish them many more years of success; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the Elgin Fire Department as a symbol of our
13 respect and esteem.