



HR0588

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, September 11th is known throughout the country and
3 recognized by the State of Illinois as National Firefighters
4 Day to honor the estimated 1,140,900 firefighters that serve
5 across the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, It is largely unknown that for every firefighter
7 in the country there are roughly 3 volunteer firefighters, and
8 in the State of Illinois, which has an estimated 45,000
9 firefighters, roughly 31,000 are volunteer firefighters; and

10 WHEREAS, Just as all our firefighters are courageous,
11 volunteer firefighters serve hundreds of communities in
12 Illinois and face the same dangers with the same amount of
13 bravery; and

14 WHEREAS, In the past 10 years, there has been an average of
15 1,684,200 fires in the United States each year; an average of
16 3,597 Americans lose their lives each year in fire-related
17 tragedies and, of them, 107 are heroic firefighters dying in
18 the line of duty; and

19 WHEREAS, These firefighters do not lose their lives in vain
20 but do so at the attempt to save lives, property, and the
21 general well being of others; and

1 WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters undergo training, educate
2 others, and perform their duties at their own expense and only
3 for the benefit of knowing that someone was helped in some way;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, It is important to never forget the duties of our
6 Illinois volunteer firefighters; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 recognize the day of September 11th as Illinois Volunteer
10 Firefighters' Day and thank the men and women of volunteer fire
11 services who devote themselves to the protection of others at
12 the risk of their own lives day after day by maintaining a
13 constant state of readiness in the battle against fires and
14 other life threatening conditions; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to David B. Foreman, State Fire Marshal, and John
17 Swan, President of the Illinois Firefighters Association.