

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On August 25, 2002, the A. Philip Randolph
3 Pullman Porter Museum will host a historic celebration, "The
4 founding Anniversary of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car
5 Porters (BSCP)", the first black labor union to be chartered
6 with the American Federation of Labor, and the first black
7 union to win a collective bargaining agreement with a major
8 U.S. corporation; and

9 WHEREAS, The anniversary celebration traditionally honors
10 black labor contributions in America, however, in recognition
11 of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, this year's
12 celebration will be honoring the black firefighters from New
13 York City; and

14 WHEREAS, The firefighters, members of the Vulcan Society,
15 an organization of black firefighters from New York City,
16 will be the honored guests; and

17 WHEREAS, Members of the black firefighters' organization
18 lost 12 men in the terrorist attacks, including firefighters
19 Gerard L. Baptiste, Vernon Cherry, Tarel Coleman, Andre R.
20 Fletcher, Keith Glascoe, Ronnie Henderson, William L. Henry,
21 Karl Joseph, Keithroy Maynard, Shawn Powell, and Leon Smith
22 and Captain Vernon Richard; the A. Philip Randolph Pullman
23 Porter Museum will show its appreciation and support for
24 these heroic men; and

25 WHEREAS, Chicago's own Captain Ezra McCann, a firefighter
26 and strong advocate for Chicago's black firefighters and a
27 community activist, will be in attendance representing
28 Chicago's "brotherhood" of firefighters; in addition, Dr.
29 Hycel B. Taylor, noted author, speaker, and Senior Pastor of
30 the historically significant Pilgrim Baptist Church, will be
31 the featured speaker; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we honor the members of the Vulcan Society, an organization
4 of Black Firefighters from New York City for their
5 dedication, commitment, and sacrifice to their country during
6 the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
9 presented to the members of the Vulcan Society as an
10 expression of our esteem.