

**Expressing the need for additional fire protection at our nation's military installations.**

Whereas fire and emergency protection is severely inadequate at most domestic military installations due to fire department staffing shortages; and

Whereas the Department of Defense maintains requirements for adequate fire fighter staffing, but does not enforce these requirements in a majority of its' installations; and

Whereas Base Commanders lack adequate funds to hire additional fire fighters, and are forced to circumvent or disregard the safe staffing regulations, which are based on OSHA rules and NFPA Standards; and

Whereas the lives of military and civilian personnel and residents of the surrounding communities are being put in danger due to the ignoring of the expanded duties assigned to fire fighters on military installations and the lack of adequate staffing to task the additional duties; and

Whereas staffing shortages are forcing many federal fire fighters to work a mandatory 96 to 108 hours per week, instead of the normal 72-hour workweek; and

Whereas the Administration's FY 2003 Budget Proposal did not address the staffing shortage facing federal fire fighters;

*Be it resolved that \$50 million shall be provided in the FY 2002 Supplemental Appropriations bill to the Department of Defense Fire and Emergency Services for the purpose of hiring additional fire fighters at domestic military installations.*

**Spring 2002 Meeting**