

Resolution expressing the need for full support of the Fire Corps Program

*Resolution offered by the National Fire Protection Association and
the National Volunteer Fire Council*

March 1, 2005

Whereas, it is beneficial to the fire service that communities receive training in accident prevention and citizen preparedness, including first aid, CPR, fire and life safety, and emergency preparedness and response skills;

Whereas, in 95 percent of all emergencies, it is either the victim or a bystander who provides the first, immediate assistance at the scene;

Whereas, Citizen Corps is a nationwide grass roots effort to actively involve all Americans in making our communities and our nation safer, stronger, and better prepared for all hazards and threats;

Whereas, Citizen Corps has an important goal to change the culture to ensure that everyone takes an active role in their safety and to increase the collaboration between citizens and emergency responders.

Whereas, Citizen Corps provides the fire service meaningful and sustained interface with citizens, provides year-round community support, reduces impact of disasters through advocating preparedness and mitigation, and develop informed, trained citizens to provide disaster response surge capacity.

Whereas, Citizen Corps provides the citizens the fire service protects with a greater sense of security, responsibility, and personal control, build community pride in hometown security, and promote risk reduction, mitigation, prevention and preparedness practices;

Whereas, Fire Corps, a new program funded by Citizen Corps that is supported by many fire service organizations, is encouraging citizens to assist their local fire department in non-operational roles such as fire prevention education, administration and more;

Whereas, in recent years the Congress has provided funding for the program at levels well below the President's request;

Now, let it therefore be resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute and the Members of the National Advisory Committee support the mission of Fire Corps and urge Congress to provide adequate funding for the program.