

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE HONORING HOMETOWN HEROES ACT

Offered by:
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
National Volunteer Fire Council

Whereas, every year in the U.S, hundreds of first responders (firefighters, law enforcement and EMS professionals) killed in the line-of-duty serving their communities;

Whereas, one of the highest honors that can be accorded to a first responder who died in the line of duty is the lowering of the national flag;

Whereas, there have been recent instances where the authority of governors to lower flags to half-staff to honor firefighters killed in the line-of-duty has been challenged;

Whereas, several national fire service organizations support, legislation entitled "Honoring Hometown Heroes Act," amending the U.S. Flag Code permitting the governor of each state, territory or possession of the United States, or the mayor of the District of Columbia to lower the national flag to half-staff in that state, territory or possession, or in the District of Columbia in the event of the death of a first responder-- including a firefighter, law enforcement or emergency medical service provider -- in the line- of- duty;

Therefore, it is resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute supports the "Honoring Hometown Heroes Act", legislation that would grant authority to governors to proclaim the lowering of the national flag in the event of a line- of- duty death of a firefighter, law enforcement or EMS professional.