

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND
COMPENSATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT**

**Offered by:
International Association of Fire Fighters
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation**

Whereas, fire fighters and others who responded to the World Trade Center on 9/11 and in the following months selflessly put their lives and health on the line to help America recover from a national disaster, and

Whereas, responders were exposed to a toxic mix of dust and chemicals, including carcinogens such as benzene, asbestos and dioxins, as well as extreme psychological trauma, and

Whereas, more than 30,000 individuals suffer from illness or injury resulting from the 9/11 attacks. Chronic diseases such as respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases, cancer and other physical maladies continue to plague responders and survivors. Screening has also found a significant number of responders suffering from psychological symptoms, including post-traumatic stress disorder, and

Whereas, cancer, in particular, continues to develop in responders and survivors due to its long latency period. To date, medical research has identified more than 60 types of cancer caused by the 9/11 toxins. Nearly 3000 individuals have been diagnosed with cancers caused or worsened by the aftermath of the attacks, a number which will surely continue to rise, and

Whereas, continued monitoring is essential for all World Trade Center responders as the long-term consequences of the sustained, unprecedented exposure they experienced are unknown. Regular monitoring will help ensure that latent diseases, such as cancer, are detected and treated early, and

Whereas, these illnesses have caused major financial strains on those exposed, many of whom are no longer able to work and would face the high price of ongoing medical treatment without the World Trade Center Health Program, and

Whereas, without Congressional action, the World Trade Center Health Program and the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund will expire in October 2015 and October 2016 respectively; now

Therefore, it is resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute supports the reauthorization of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act and encourages Members of Congress to support reauthorization of the act.