

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION AMENDING THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SURVIVOR, DISABILITY, AND EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR EXPOSURE-RELATED OCCUPATIONAL CANCERS**

Offered by:

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
International Association of Fire Fighters  
International Association of Fire Chiefs  
National Fire Protection Association  
National Volunteer Fire Council

Whereas, firefighter occupational cancer is one of the leading causes of death of in the fire service; and

Whereas, firefighters have a 9% higher risk of developing cancer and a 14% higher risk of dying from cancer compared to the general public; and

Whereas, firefighters are uniquely exposed to a wide variety of hazards and known carcinogens, including, but not limited to, combustible products, diesel exhaust, building materials, asbestos, chemicals, PFAS, shift work, and ultraviolet radiation; and

Whereas, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) recently classified firefighter occupational exposure as a group 1 carcinogen, stating there is sufficient evidence for cancer in humans; and

Whereas, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program provides death and education benefits to survivors of fallen firefighters, EMS personnel, law enforcement officers, and other public safety officers, and disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty; and

Whereas, Congress and 49 states have previously enacted legislation identifying certain occupational cancers as a line-of-duty injury for public safety officers who responded to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and for the purposes of workers compensation benefits for federal firefighters;

Therefore, it is resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute supports federal legislation to amend the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program to provide survivor, disability, and educational benefits for exposure-related occupational cancers.