

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 332

Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

WHEREAS, the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) convened its first convention one hundred years ago when thirty-six delegates selected from twenty-four local unions gathered on February 28, 1918, in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the thirty-six delegates met at the American Federation of Labor building at 10:00 in the morning to adopt a Constitution and By-Laws for the new union, created for the sole benefit of rank-and-file fire fighters in the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, the delegates elected Thomas G. Spellacy of Schenectady, New York as the IAFF's first president and William Smith as the union's first Secretary-Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, before the IAFF was formed, fire fighters received salaries as low as twenty-nine cents per hour. The IAFF has fought for better wages, fair benefits, better working conditions, and improved safety for its members, as well as greater public safety services for the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, the IAFF currently has more than 300,000 members that represent more than 3,200 affiliates in every state and Canada; and

WHEREAS, the IAFF remains the primary advocate for providing fire fighters and paramedics with the tools they need to perform their jobs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes and celebrates the centennial of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

2. That Nebraska's fire fighters are encouraged to celebrate the history of the IAFF.

3. That the Legislature recognizes and respects the role of the IAFF as the protector of the protectors.

4. That copies of this resolution be sent to the IAFF headquarters, the Nebraska Professional Fire Fighters Association, and the IAFF Local 385.