

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011

H.J.R. 1226
Jun 14, 2012
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DRHJR11382-LG-207A (06/14)

Sponsors: Representatives Jackson, Weiss (Primary Sponsors); Avila, Gill, Murry, Martin, and Ross.

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RALEIGH
2 FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED WITH THE
3 DEPARTMENT.

4 Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department protects the citizens of North Carolina's
5 capitol city in the county of Wake; and

6 Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department was organized in December 1912 as a
7 full-paid fire department after over 50 years of service by citizen fire companies; and

8 Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department was led by Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell,
9 the first full-time Chief of Department; and

10 Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department was placed in service in December 1912,
11 with two fire stations, two horse-drawn hose companies, and the following 15 members: Fire
12 Chief Sherwood Brockwell; Assistant Chief Charles Farmer; Company No. 1 members,
13 Captain T. G. Welsh, Lieutenant S. H. Horton, W. M. Niblock, M. J. Martin, W. B. Barker, E.
14 J. Lassiter, R. M. Simmons, and D. B. Jones; and Company No. 2 members, Captain A. A.
15 Doolittle, Lieutenant H. C. Joyner, B. B. Parrish, O. K. Hester, and W. K. Justice; and

16 Whereas, in 1913 a third hose company and a third fire station was placed in
17 service, and the first two motor fire engines were delivered; and

18 Whereas, in 1915 the Raleigh Fire Department was fully motorized and the last
19 horse was retired from duty; and

20 Whereas, in 1915 the Raleigh Fire Department's force of 24 firefighters protected a
21 population of over 24,000 residents living within four square miles; and

22 Whereas, in 1950, as the City of Raleigh grew in size, the Raleigh Fire Department
23 consisted of six engine companies, protecting 65,679 residents, encompassing 10.9 square
24 miles. The department was staffed by 84 members and answered 911 calls that calendar year;
25 and

26 Whereas, by the end of the 20th Century, the Raleigh Fire Department continued to
27 expand in both size and scope. Today's Raleigh Fire Department responds to fires, provides
28 emergency medical care, responds to rescue calls, performs inspections and plan reviews of
29 buildings, conducts fire and life safety education, and is equipped with special technical rescue,
30 hazardous-materials, and urban search and rescue teams; and

31 Whereas, today the Raleigh Fire Department's 27 fire stations and 28 engine
32 companies, eight ladder companies, and three rescue companies protect a population of
33 403,892 and 144.8 square miles. The Raleigh Fire Department has 575 uniformed and civilian
34 members. The Raleigh Fire Department responded to 37,781 fire, emergency, and service calls
35 in the 2011 calendar year; and



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1 Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department will be celebrating its centennial anniversary
2 throughout 2012 with a number of public celebrations; and

3 Whereas, this occasion is worthy of recognition and should be enjoyed and
4 supported by all North Carolinians; Now, therefore,

5 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

6 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the founders of the Raleigh Fire
7 Department and the men and women who have served the department in protection of the
8 citizens of Raleigh.

9 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its sincere congratulations and best
10 wishes to the Raleigh Fire Department on its 100th Anniversary as a career fire department.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
12 resolution to the Fire Chief of the City of Raleigh.

13 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.