

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2011**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1226**

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Sponsors:       Representatives Jackson and Weiss (Primary Sponsors).  
                    For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

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Referred to:

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June 19, 2012

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



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.