

Public Law 98-275
98th Congress

Joint Resolution

May 8, 1984

[S.J. Res. 136]

To recognize "Volunteer Firefighters Recognition Day" as a tribute to the bravery and self-sacrifice of our volunteer firefighters.

Whereas over 80 per centum of the firefighters in the United States are volunteers who selflessly protect our lives and property;

Whereas three hundred and ninety-five volunteer firefighters have lost their lives in the line of duty during the past five years, with fifty-eight such deaths occurring in 1983 alone;

Whereas volunteer firefighters expose themselves to physical risks, including long-term health risks such as coronary disease, with no financial remuneration;

Whereas fire departments comprised only of volunteers protect a large percentage of the rural townships, hamlets, and farms within the United States; and

Whereas firefighters attached to such departments spend time and energy, in addition to that spent fighting fires, to provide fire prevention instruction and other services to their communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That August 18, 1984, is designated as "National Volunteer Firefighters Recognition Day" and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Approved May 8, 1984.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 136:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 129 (1983): Aug. 4, considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 130 (1984): Mar. 22, considered and passed House, amended.

Apr. 26, Senate concurred in House amendments.