



HR0999

LRB104 22621 LAW 39068 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Northwest St. Clair
4 County Fire Protection District on the occasion of its 80th
5 anniversary; and

6 WHEREAS, The Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
7 District began as Northwest Volunteer Fire Department Inc.
8 after a group of concerned individuals realized the need for
9 fire protection in an unincorporated area located outside the
10 city limits of Belleville, founding the fire department on
11 December 16, 1946; and

12 WHEREAS, Northwest Volunteer Fire Department Inc. had the
13 No. 1 Fire Station built at 1513 North Belt West by volunteers
14 involved in the forming of the fire department, and its first
15 fire engine was ordered and placed into service shortly
16 thereafter; and

17 WHEREAS, Northwest Volunteer Fire Department Inc. expanded
18 into the south in the 1950s, developing Engine House No. 2 at
19 2327 South Belt West through the efforts of volunteer firemen;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Northwest Volunteer Fire Department Inc. operated

1 as a subscription service to citizens until three fire
2 districts were formed in 1976, representing the north, south,
3 and the west; despite this, the department never refused
4 anyone service; and

5 WHEREAS, Northwest Volunteer Fire Department Inc. became
6 the first fire department in the area to require all
7 firefighters be certified by the Office of the Illinois State
8 Fire Marshal in 1980; and

9 WHEREAS, Northwest Volunteer Fire Department Inc.'s three
10 fire districts were combined to form the Northwest St. Clair
11 County Fire Protection District in 1986, which was governed by
12 three trustees, and it subsequently hired its first full-time
13 career administrator in 1989; and

14 WHEREAS, The Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
15 District saw continued growth in the 1990s, including building
16 a new fire station, No. 2, at 3407 South Belt West in 1997 and
17 obtaining new equipment to combat fires more efficiently; and

18 WHEREAS, As the Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
19 District continued to grow, its staff received further
20 specialized training in a number of areas, including technical
21 rescue, hazmat, confined space, high angle, and EMS, in
22 addition to line officer and chief officer classes; and

1 WHEREAS, The Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
2 District, thanks to the successful passage of a referendum in
3 2017, obtained the funding necessary to make capital
4 improvements, allowing the remodel of and an addition to Fire
5 Station No. 1, the purchase of its first 75-foot ladder truck,
6 the refurbishment of Rescue 4220, and the purchase of
7 necessary equipment to ensure the safety of district
8 firefighters; and

9 WHEREAS, The Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
10 District is led by Fire Chief Chester L. Borkowski Jr. and the
11 members of its board of trustees; and

12 WHEREAS, The Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
13 District has continued to grow over the past eight decades,
14 becoming the esteemed ISO Class 3 Fire Protection District it
15 is today, with state-of-the-art equipment and highly trained
16 firefighters who provide a level of service the residents
17 expect, and the fire protection district will continue to
18 advance through the valiant efforts of countless individuals,
19 ensuring it provides fire, rescue, EMS, and technical rescue
20 services to the community; and

21 WHEREAS, The Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
22 District will be celebrating its 80th anniversary as well as

1 commemorating America's 250th anniversary; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
3 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we congratulate the Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection
5 District on achieving its 80th anniversary, and we thank the
6 members of the fire protection district for their continued
7 service and dedication to the community; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to Fire Chief Chester L. Borkowski Jr. of the
10 Northwest St. Clair County Fire Protection District as an
11 expression of our esteem and respect.