



HR0318

LRB103 32636 LAW 62291 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize the Momence Fire Protection
4 District's naming of its firehouse in honor of the late former
5 Fire Chief James "Jim" LaMotte; and

6 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte was born to Robert and Ethel LaMotte
7 in Kankakee on October 23, 1940; he married Marlene D. Grimes
8 in Momence on August 4, 1962, and they had three daughters; and

9 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte became a volunteer firefighter in
10 1958, serving on the Momence Fire Protection District for over
11 50 years; and

12 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte courageously served as fire chief of
13 the Momence Fire Protection District for 21 years, and he
14 served as a sitting member and president of the board of
15 trustees; and

16 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte's impact on the Kankakee County
17 region is indelible, as he served on the committee to
18 establish 911 in Kankakee and the Kankakee County Emergency
19 Telephone System Board from 1989 to 2021, serving as chairman
20 on the latter for 27 years; and

1 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte served as a sitting officer and
2 treasurer of the Illinois Firefighter Memorial Foundation and
3 the State Firefighter Medal of Honor Committee; and

4 WHEREAS, In addition to his service in first response, Jim
5 LaMotte spent many years engaged with his community, serving
6 as president of the Hundred Club of Kankakee County, past vice
7 chairman of the Kankakee County Board, and board member of
8 Drug Free, Inc.; and

9 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte also volunteered at Good Shepherd
10 Manor in Momence from its very beginning in 1971, and he served
11 as chairman of the board of directors for 22 years; and

12 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte's service was recognized many times,
13 being named the 1999 Momence Citizen of the Year and having
14 received the 2015 Momence Chamber of Commerce Lifetime
15 Achievement Award, the 2018 Joe Gianotti President Award from
16 the Hundred Club of Kankakee County, and the 2021 Kankakee
17 911/ETSB Years of Service Award; and

18 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte was further honored when the Kankakee
19 County Board proclaimed October 2021 as Jim LaMotte Month; and

20 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte was a lifetime parishioner of St.
21 Patrick Church in Momence, where he also served on the

1 cemetery board and finance council; and

2 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte passed away in February 2022, and he
3 was preceded in death by his wife in 2018; and

4 WHEREAS, Jim LaMotte left behind a legacy in his public
5 service and through his daughters, Lori (Don) Henry, Sandy
6 (Bob) Malpasuto, and Jackie (Bill) Haas, his grandchildren,
7 Jill (Justin) Licke, Ashley (Erik) Michener, Aryn (Jeff)
8 Whiting, Jack Malpasuto, Mike (Rachel) Malpasuto, Nicole Haas,
9 and Ben Haas, and his sister-in-law, Patricia LaMotte; and

10 WHEREAS, The Momence Fire Protection District has
11 announced it will be naming its firehouse in honor of the late
12 former Fire Chief James "Jim" LaMotte for his lifetime of
13 service to and the profound impact he had on his communities;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we recognize the Momence Fire Protection District's naming of
18 its firehouse in honor of the late former Fire Chief James
19 "Jim" LaMotte, a dedication to a true community leader of
20 Kankakee County and the State of Illinois who gave his gifts
21 and time to the people and communities he loved; and be it
22 further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 presented to Momence Fire Protection District Fire Chief James
3 Spoon and the LaMotte family as an expression of our esteem and
4 respect.