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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate the staff and administration of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District on the occasion of its 75th anniversary on August 25, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Norwood Park Fire Protection District services were first provided to Norwood Park residents from the garage of Walter E. Schoenfeld at 4318 Ottawa Street, which served as Norwood Park's first fire station; and

WHEREAS, In 1947, the first official fire station was made at the corner of Montrose Avenue and Ottawa Street; the station was a former church that was relocated from Montrose Avenue and Thatcher Avenue; and

WHEREAS, The Montrose and Ottawa station was expanded in 1954, 1956, and 1960; a second fire station was constructed in 1954 at 7301 Lawrence Avenue in Harwood Heights; and

WHEREAS, The volunteer fire department was reorganized in 1958 as the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, with Tobias Schaden (Norridge), Hubert Huening (Harwood Heights) and Lucien E. Bond (Norwood Park Township) serving as the first trustees; Walter E. Schoenfeld served as the first Volunteer

1 Fire Chief before becoming the first full-time Fire Chief,  
2 having been appointed on January 1, 1959; and

3 WHEREAS, On February 1, 1961, the Norwood Park Fire  
4 Protection District went to 24-hour, full-time fire  
5 protection; the first full-time firefighters were Ed Jilka, Les  
6 Richards, Paul Schoenfeld, and Alan Campbell; and

7 WHEREAS, The Norwood Park Fire Protection District  
8 initiated its first ambulance service in 1954; the district was  
9 also a pioneer in the field of paramedics, starting in 1978;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, A new fire station was constructed in 1988 at 7447  
12 West Lawrence Avenue, consolidating both stations to better  
13 serve their communities; and

14 WHEREAS, The Norwood Park Fire Protection District has  
15 grown to 35 full-time firefighters and paramedics and is  
16 currently led by Fire Chief Kevin J. Stenson; and

17 WHEREAS, The Norwood Park Fire Protection District serves  
18 as a model of hard work, integrity, and dedication for the  
19 people of the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
2 congratulate the staff and administration of the Norwood Park  
3 Fire Protection District on the occasion of its 75th  
4 anniversary and wish them continued success and happiness in  
5 the future; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to the Norwood Park Fire Protection District as a  
8 symbol of our esteem and respect.