

RESOLUTION NO. 48

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: HEALTH & SAFETY
RE: ESTABLISH AN IAFF CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

1 WHEREAS, the International Association of Fire
2 Fighters (IAFF) Center of Excellence for Behavioral
3 Health Treatment and Recovery opened its doors on
4 March 5, 2017 in partnership with Advance
5 Recovery Systems (ARS) as a one-of-a-kind
6 behavioral health treatment facility for fire fighters
7 and their families; and

8 WHEREAS, a 15-acre facility with more than 60
9 treatment beds was constructed just outside of
10 Washington, DC; and

11 WHEREAS, this facility was designed with the
12 firehouse in mind and was built to make fire fighters
13 feel at home; and

14 WHEREAS, each treatment program at the Center
15 of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and
16 Recovery is backed by scientific research and fire
17 fighter health is their priority, with the support of
18 doctors, family, and IAFF peers; and

19 WHEREAS, from March 2017 to January 2018
20 the IAFF Center of Excellence treated 165 IAFF
21 members; and

22 WHEREAS, from March 2017 to January 2018,
23 several IAFF members have been denied acceptance
24 into the IAFF Center of Excellence due to a lack of
25 medical insurance coverage or the ability to pay for
26 the treatment out-of-pocket; and

27 WHEREAS, the right for all IAFF members and
28 families to receive quality Behavioral Health
29 Treatment should be a goal supported by the entire
30 membership; therefore be it

31 RESOLVED, That the IAFF establish a financial
32 assistance program for treatment at the IAFF Center
33 of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and
34 Recovery; and be it further

35 RESOLVED, That this assistance program be
36 administered through the IAFF Foundation; and be it
37 further

38 RESOLVED, That any IAFF member applying
39 for an IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral
40 Health Treatment and Recovery financial assistance
41 program shall have their confidentiality rights
42 protected.

Submitted by: California Professional Firefighters, A-5

Cost Estimate: 5 ¼ cents

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

CONVENTION ACTION: