

Substitute Resolution No. 45

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Health & Safety

Re: Reduce the Burden Upon Members Who Seek Treatment at Care Centers Affiliated With the IAFF

1 WHEREAS, the International Association of Fire
2 Fighters has been working towards the welfare of its
3 members for a century; and

4 WHEREAS, IAFF brothers and sisters may be
5 struggling with post-traumatic stress along with co-
6 occurring depression, anxiety or substance abuse
7 disorders; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2017, the IAFF opened the first-
9 ever behavioral health treatment facility specifically
10 for fire fighters; and

11 WHEREAS, the IAFF Center of Excellence for
12 Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery is as a
13 one of a kind behavioral health treatment facility for
14 fire fighters; and

15 WHEREAS, from March 2017 to August 2018
16 the IAFF Center of Excellence treated 430 IAFF
17 members; and

18 WHEREAS, we have endeavored upon the
19 creation of a center for the care of those brother and
20 sister fire fighters suffering from the stressors
21 associated with firefighting, emergency medical
22 services, and other duties that we have been so called
23 upon; and

24 WHEREAS, the costs of healthcare continue to
25 rise, creating more of a burden upon those who are
26 already in need; and

27 WHEREAS, the IAFF Foundation's core mission

28 remains to help our members and their families in
29 their time of need, providing financial assistance
30 through programs such as the Disaster Relief Fund,
31 McClennan Scholarships, and the Burn Fund;
32 therefore be it

33 RESOLVED, That the Foundation explore
34 expanding its mission to meet the ever-evolving
35 needs of our brothers and sisters by developing and
36 implementing a financial assistance program to help
37 with some of the expenses not covered by health
38 insurance for members attending the IAFF Center of
39 Excellence; and be it further

40 RESOLVED, That the Foundation's Board of
41 Directors will work with the Center of Excellence
42 Advisory Committee to establish a policy governing
43 the levels of financial assistance and the types of
44 expenses that will be covered through this new
45 Foundation program.

Submitted by: Health & Safety Committee

Cost Estimate: None

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt

CONVENTION ACTION: Adopted