



HR0599

LRB101 15331 MST 64523 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the DeKalb Fire  
4 Department on the 150th anniversary of its founding and  
5 recognize its years of service to the local community and its  
6 ongoing commitment to the safety of the citizens of DeKalb; and

7 WHEREAS, The DeKalb Fire Department was founded in 1869 in  
8 response to the growing population and industry within the City  
9 of DeKalb requiring organized fire protection; and

10 WHEREAS, Hook & Ladder Company 1 was organized in 1870 and  
11 staffed by volunteer firefighters; the first Hose Company was  
12 organized in 1874, with a second Hose Company added 10 years  
13 later; and

14 WHEREAS, William Miller was named the first fire chief and  
15 led the department for 36 years; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1904, the City of DeKalb established a paid  
17 fire department and disbanded the volunteer fire companies; the  
18 first paid firefighters were Hans Erickson, James Klock, Mike  
19 McEvoy, and Charles Burr; and

20 WHEREAS, Today, the DeKalb Fire Department consists of 54

1 personnel led by Fire Chief Jeff McMaster, the 19th chief of  
2 the department; and

3 WHEREAS, The DeKalb Fire Department provides all hazards  
4 response to the community through fire prevention, fighting  
5 fires, paramedic level emergency medical service, hazardous  
6 materials response, technical rescue response, and any other  
7 type of emergency response requested of the department; and

8 WHEREAS, The DeKalb Fire Department is committed to  
9 providing the highest level of service to the citizens of  
10 DeKalb and those who visit; and

11 WHEREAS, The DeKalb Fire Department strives to  
12 continuously seek innovative and effective ways to protect the  
13 lives and property of those they serve through suppression,  
14 emergency medical services, education, prevention, and  
15 training; and

16 WHEREAS, The DeKalb Firefighters of today embody and honor  
17 the department's tradition of dedication and commitment to the  
18 local community through their professionalism and courageous  
19 work; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
21 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we congratulate the DeKalb Fire Department on the 150th  
2 anniversary of its founding, recognize its tradition of bravery  
3 and dedication, and wish it many more successful years; and be  
4 it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to the DeKalb Fire Department as a symbol of our  
7 respect and esteem.