

AN ACT concerning volunteer emergency responders.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The State Commemorative Dates Act is amended by adding Section 126 as follows:

(5 ILCS 490/126 new)

Sec. 126. Volunteer Emergency Responder Appreciation Day.
The third Thursday in May of each year is designated Volunteer
Emergency Responder Appreciation Day in Illinois. Volunteer
firefighters, rescue squads, divers, emergency medical
technicians, and response teams sacrifice their time and lives
for their communities with little or no compensation. Volunteer
Emergency Responder Appreciation Day shall be observed
throughout the State by the citizens of Illinois with civic
remembrances of the sacrifices made on their behalf by the
volunteer emergency responders of Illinois, especially the
ultimate sacrifice given by those individuals who have lost
their lives in the line of duty.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.